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Pakistan denies atom bomb claims by ex-premier

ISLAMABAD (Reuters) - Former prime minister Nawaz Sharif said yesterday in a warning to India that Pakistan has the atomic bomb, but the claim was denied by a government spokesman.

Sharif, who left office last July and now leads the opposition, made the claim in a speech in the Pakistan-controlled part of disputed Kashmir, according to the private PFI news agency.

"I confirm Pakistan possesses the atomic bomb," PFI quoted Sharif as telling a rally at Neelabutt in the Pakistan-controlled part of Kashmir, which is disputed between India and Pakistan.

He warned neighboring India that an attack could trigger a nuclear war between the two countries, who have fought two wars over Kashmir, two-thirds of which is ruled by India and the remaining third by Pakistan.

Pakistan has said in the past that it has acquired the capability to make nuclear weapons but has decided as a matter of policy not to make them and instead use nuclear technology for peaceful purposes such as energy.

The claim reported by PFI was immediately denied by a Foreign Ministry spokesman in Islamabad, the Pakistan capital.

The official restated the government position that it had acquired the capability to make nuclear weapons but had taken a policy decision not to do so.

"We have the technological capability but we have taken a conscious decision not to acquire nuclear weapons," he said.

There was no immediate international reaction to Sharif's remark. No official was available to comment at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna.

In Berlin yesterday, the Justice Ministry said it had new evidence that Pakistan may have bought contraband plutonium.

Ministry spokesman Frank Thiel said documents which led Berlin police to suspect Islamabad had some part in the illegal plutonium trade turned out not to implicate Pakistan.

But he said police now had other evidence, which he declined to describe, that pointed that way.

"The Berlin public prosecutor has evidence that indicates plutonium was sold to Pakistan or was supposed to be sold," Thiel said. "This is still the object of our investigation - plutonium for Pakistan."

Pakistan was mentioned as a possible suspect last week after Berlin police raided seven apartments and interrogated a Pakistani, two Poles and a German about nuclear smuggling.



Foreign Minister Shimon Peres is welcomed by German Chancellor Helmut Kohl before their meeting in Bonn yesterday. (AP)

Kohl: Germany seeks improved standing for Israel within EU

BONN (Reuters) - Germany wants the European Union to reach a new and improved cooperation pact with Israel soon, Chancellor Helmut Kohl said yesterday.

Kohl told visiting Foreign Minister Shimon Peres that Bonn wanted Israel to be closely associated with the 12-member EU.

The chancellor stressed the German government's wish for a quick conclusion to current negotiations between Israel and the European Union over revising their 1975 cooperation protocol.

Kohl's spokesman Dieter Vogel said after the talks.

"The new accord must take account of the peace process in the (Middle East) region and include qualitative improvements," the spokesman said in a statement.

Israel is looking for greater access to European agricultural markets, research and development programs and government contracts with EU member states to cut its current \$5 billion trade deficit with the EU bloc.

The EU agreed in principle to renegotiate its protocol last December but since then Israel says several EU countries have procrastinated. Germany holds the six-month EU presidency until January 1.

Earlier, Peres said Israel would like to see Germany play a greater international role and take a seat on the United Nations Security Council.

Asked by reporters whether he favored a German place on the council, Peres said: "Yes. One should no longer see Germany through the angle of the past but the angle of the future."

"Germany must play a bigger role in world politics," added Peres on the second day of a three-day visit to Bonn for consultations with German leaders.

The world wants to see Germany "engaging herself" in international problems, Peres said. Peres also said he would not be opposed to German troops participating in whatever UN peacekeeping missions occur in the Middle East in years to come.

In Paris, the French Foreign Ministry said France favors granting Israel equal status to members of the European Union in competition for European civilian research and development contracts.

French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur has written to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin informing him that France will not oppose Israel's bid to improve its status in European tenders, a ministry spokeswoman said.

Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin also flatly ruled out any negotiations with Iraq, rejecting comparisons to Israel's secret talks with the PLO in Norway that led to last year's agreement.

"It is impossible for us... as long as Iraq does not agree to international sanctions and demands," Beilin said.

Beilin took a softer tone when asked about talks with Iran, saying a breakthrough with Syria might lead to negotiations with Tehran.

The paper said the question of contacts between Israel and Iraq had been raised in talks between Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Tarek Aziz and King Hassan of Morocco last week in Rabat. The paper speculated that Iraq is interested in negotiating with Israel in the hope this would lead to the easing of UN sanctions against it.

Saudi paper: Israel, Iraq held meeting in New York

News agencies

A SECRET meeting was held by Israeli and Iraqi representatives in New York recently, according to a report yesterday in the London-based Saudi daily, *Al-Hayat*.

The same issue also features an interview with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in which he is quoted as saying that, "all contact with Iraq is forbidden."

According to *Al-Hayat*, "A secret meeting between representatives of the Israeli government and senior Iraqis took place several weeks ago in New York. The Israeli delegation refused to enter into open negotiations," said the paper, quoting Western diplomatic sources in Jordan.

Rabin refused to confirm or to deny the report, saying, "I don't know anything about contacts with Iraq undertaken via the mediation of a third party. I have forbidden Israeli civil servants to make direct or indirect contact with the Iraqis."

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Inspection of ships at Akaba to end

WASHINGTON (AP) - Responding to a request from Jordan, the Clinton administration is suspending for one month inspection of ships entering and departing the Arab kingdom's Red Sea port of Akaba.

The move, announced yesterday by the Pentagon, reflects new trust in King Hussein's government in light of his recent agreements with Israel to establish economic ties and end their state of belligerency.

The king had criticized the 1991 US-led war against Iraq to liberate Kuwait, calling it a war against all Arabs, and Jordan was suspected of helping Iraq defy an embargo of the Baghdad government.

The Pentagon said examination of cargo would be undertaken ashore beginning tomorrow by Lloyd's Register, and that if it worked inspection in the Red Sea would end.

The Pentagon said the action was in response to a request from Jordan.

The US Navy's interceptions began in the Red Sea and Persian Gulf on August 18, 1990, with 13 other nations participating. About 500 vessels were diverted, most for "inaccessible cargo or paperwork cargo," and most of them were subsequently cleared, the announcement said.



One of four soldiers lightly wounded yesterday in Bethlehem arrives at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem section. The four were hurt when a hand grenade apparently thrown by a Palestinian detonated munitions in a tent at Bethlehem brigade headquarters. Investigators say the attack was carried out by a single individual who approached the base from an alley leading to its rear gate. The army is also investigating why large quantities of munitions were stored in the tent. (Tel: Alon Pindas, photo: Brian Hendler)

Shohat: Investors warned me gov't would fall

Post Business Staff

FINANCE Minister Avraham Shohat said last night that certain elements involved in the capital markets had warned that the government would fall if a tax was imposed on the stock market.

Shohat expressed confidence that the market would stabilize at a reasonable price level. The finance minister was being interviewed by Channel 1.

The TASE had another good day yesterday following Tuesday's recovery, with the Two-Sided index rising 2.74% to 173.5 and the narrower Maot index 3.3% to 174.6. The smaller shares traded on the Karam, hardest hit on Sunday, were among the strongest risers yesterday.

The market opened strongly yesterday with an excess of buy orders over sell orders of NIS 500 million.

Turnover was moderate overall although there was considerable activity in some shares, led by Koor and Isramco. In the afternoon, the rises moderated somewhat as many investors used the strong market to either take profits or unload stock they had been unable to sell on Sunday.

Full report, Page 9

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Full report, Page 9

Beilin: Peace deal with Syria must be reached soon

STOCKHOLM (AP) - Peace with Syria is closer than ever, but chances for reaching a settlement could evaporate by next year, Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin said yesterday.

"There is an Israeli government ready to withdraw from the Golan Heights, there is a Syrian government ready to normalize relations with Israel, and both governments are ready to have American mediation," Beilin said after meetings in Sweden.

"Making peace with Syria will create a comprehensive peace in the Middle East, but we don't have too much time," Beilin told reporters. "What we have is something like eight to 10 months before it is too late for a breakthrough."

Beilin said domestic events in each country, including campaigning for 1996 US presidential elections, would make progress difficult. He did not elaborate.

He was in Sweden as part of a swing through Scandinavia to discuss bilateral and multilateral issues.

Syrian and Israeli officials have not yet met directly, Beilin said. He said the sides "are closer than ever, but we are still very, very far apart" on major issues.

Still, he added, "I'm afraid of missing such an opportunity because I don't know when it might come again."

Typhoon Fred death toll reaches 700

News agencies

HONG KONG - The death toll rose to more than 700 yesterday, with damage estimated at more than a billion dollars, as Typhoon Fred battered eastern China, an official spokesman reported.

Fred cut through Zhejiang province and pounded the coastal region over the weekend, collapsing thousands of houses and destroying river embankments.

A spokesman for the provincial foreign affairs office said at least 700 people had died but there was no final tally of deaths and destruction.

He added that about a quarter of the province's 42 million people were affected by the disaster, whether by having their homes damaged, their factories stopped or cropland ruined.

Official figures say the storm resulted in the collapse of 100,000 homes with severe damage to 700,000 others.

Fred packed winds of up to 198 kph and destroyed 950 km of dike embankments, causing damage to large areas of farmland, it said.

According to the agency, the storm cut highways and ripped down power poles and 90,000 business enterprises were forced to shut down. Financial losses were estimated at \$1.2 billion, it said.

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Gush Katif leaders claim security is worsening

HERB KEINON, ALON PINKAS and Tim

SETTLEMENT leaders in Gush Katif marked the 100th day since the beginning of autonomy yesterday by releasing a report that details how the security situation in the Gush is "difficult and getting worse."

One of the conclusions of the report, presented yesterday by Gaza Coast Regional Council head Zvi Hendel at a news conference in Neve Dekalim, is that "the Arab population centers from which the IDF withdrew have turned into cities of refuge and training basis for terror and murder."

Hendel said that since the army cannot go into Gaza and stop attacks in the planning stages, and because the responsibility of handling terrorists after attacks has been given over to the Palestinian police, the IDF is for all purposes not in control of security for Gush Katif residents.

Hendel said that because terror organizations know the IDF's modus operandi and are also aware of the Palestinian police forces' "lack of motivation, the only deterrent factor that is left is the danger of being injured during the attack itself."

According to statistics compiled by the Gaza Coast Regional Council, there have been 66 shooting incidents on Jewish targets since the beginning of autonomy, and dozens of other stone throwing incidents, thefts and cases of illegal building in the Palestinian agricultural area that directly borders the Gush.

Hendel's statistics were at variance with what OC Southern Command Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilnay told President Ezer Weizman when he visited the Gush on Sunday. Vilnay said terror incidents dropped to 49 during the first three months of autonomy, from 120 incidents during the preceding three months.

Hendel said the difference was that the IDF does not count shots fired from long range in the direction of a settlement, something which the Gaza Regional Council's statistics do reflect.

According to Hendel, Palestinian police are not using IDF-supplied information that could prevent terror attacks or lead to the capture of those involved. According to this report, not one Hamas or Islamic Jihad ter-

rorist has been arrested for longer than a few hours, and no weapons have been confiscated from these groups.

A senior Southern Command officer said yesterday that Hendel's remarks were politically motivated and inaccurate.

"The fact is that since the Cairo agreements were implemented over three months ago, the number of attacks against Jewish settlers has declined by a third. Zvi Hendel's statement that the IDF does not exercise exclusive authority over security, as mandated in the Cairo agreement, is plainly untrue, inaccurate and is motivated by political opinion," said the senior officer.

Hendel praised the senior staff of the Palestinian police, saying they were interested in carrying out the letter and spirit of the accords. He said he has held unofficial meetings with some of these officers, but that an attempt by Israel to set up an official meeting between him and the top Palestinian police staff was torpedoed at the last minute.



Yihya, a male Indian elephant born on Friday at the Ramat Gan Safari, is given a bottle of milk by Itzik Franko. It is the first calf for Aviva, a 23-year-old elephant that was pregnant for 22 months. Its father is named Motek. (Gideon Markowitz/TPFA)

Army evacuating outposts in Samaria

ALON PINKAS

THE IDF began evacuating an undisclosed number of outposts in populated areas throughout Samaria, and plans to proceed with what army sources termed an "adjustment of deployment."

Last week the army evacuated an outpost near the village of Beit on the Jerusalem-Nabulus road. An army source said the evacuation was carried out according to a decision to adjust the army's approach to road security problems. The source denied that the evacuation marked the beginning of a broader redeployment plan by the IDF, as part of an "early empowerment" agreement for the territories.

The army source, a Central Command officer, emphasized that the purpose is to remove IDF outposts from heavily populated Palestinian villages and small towns in order to avoid unnecessary friction. This policy, he said, will strengthen, rather than compromise the IDF's task of securing settlements and settlers driving along roads throughout Samaria.

The head of the Samaria Regional Council, Arye Ofri, said yesterday that he does not object to the evacuation because the army should redeploy as it sees fit. He told Ofri that in the event of an increase in stone-throwing incidents originating from these villages, he will demand that the army reestablish the outposts.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

A novel, closed-loop system for storing and transporting solar energy in chemical form was inaugurated at the Weizmann Institute of Science yesterday. Among the speakers were Prof. N. Fischer of the German Aerospace Research Establishment, Dr. Gershon Metzger of the Israel Ministry of Science and the Arts, and Dr. Karl Krebs, Counselor for Scientific Affairs of the German Embassy. Institute Vice President Prof. Yoram Groner took the occasion to thank the German Ministry of Technology and the Israel Ministry of Science and the Arts, for providing the funds for the closed-loop system.

The monthly luncheon of the SKAL CLUB TEL AVIV, will take place tomorrow, Thursday, August 25, 1994, at 1 p.m. at the Tel Aviv Sheraton. Guest speaker: Mordechai (Motti) Gur, deputy defense minister.

The English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will pay a visit to the recycling plant in Mishor Admonit. The bus will leave from the YMCA, King David Street, at 12:29 sharp today. Visiting Rotarians are welcome.

CORRECTIONS

Bovis, the British-based international construction company, is going to provide management services for the new terminal at Ben-Gurion Airport, and not construct the terminal as reported in Tuesday's paper.

The head of Yad Vashem's department for the Righteous Among the Nations is Dr. Mordechai Paldiel, and not as given in last Friday's report about the impending visit of the Duke of Edinburgh to Israel.

The Minister of Justice
The Director-General
The Commissioner of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks
and the staff of the Ministry
extend their sincerest condolences to
Naomi Shubowitz
on the death of her father

ISRAEL

More coordination needed in Jericho, police commanders tell Shahal

BILL HUTMAN

THE relative quiet in Jericho has failed to convince Israelis it is safe to visit there, and perhaps for good reason, according to the briefing Police Minister Moshe Shahal received yesterday on security in the area.

Police commanders in the Jericho area warned Shahal that steps needed to be taken immediately to improve coordination between the Israeli and Palestinian Police.

Lt.-Cmdr. Hussein Farres, Border Police commander in Judea and Samaria, said that if improvements were not made the potential existed "for a repeat of the Erez Checkpoint incident in Jericho."

Farres was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-commander yesterday by Shahal, making him the highest ranking Druse in the Border Police or Israel Police forces. Shahal announced the promotion while the group was visiting the Jericho checkpoint.

The lack of coordination between the Palestinian and Israeli forces

could have fatal consequences in the event of a large-scale disturbance in the Jericho area, Farres said.

"Let's say an Israeli driver runs over a young girl in the city, and all of a sudden a large crowd gathers around and we have to go in to get him out," he said.

He explained that coordination had not reached a level that would ensure that such an incident would end without bloodshed.

A confrontation involving both Palestinian and Israeli police could also occur at one of the checkpoints into the city, he added.

Farres was speaking at a briefing for Shahal by police commanders at the Border Police base just outside Jericho, at the end of a fact-finding tour of the area by the minister.

Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz and Border Police Cmdr. Yitzhak Aharonovich accompanied Shahal on the tour, which included the

Vered Yehitho checkpoint to the autonomous region of Jericho.

The local police commanders reported that few Israelis were visiting Jericho, and that many even preferred taking the long way around the city to avoid entering the autonomous area.

"There aren't many people that are coming here to have lunch, like it was in the days before the intifada," said one commander.

The commanders also asked for an increase in manpower to help them cope with the recent wave of thefts from Jewish settlements in the area apparently by local Palestinians.

Meanwhile, Cmdr. Farouk Amin, the senior Palestinian Police officer at the Vered Yehitho checkpoint, denied reports that Jericho had become a hide-out for Palestinian criminals and terrorists.

Hefetz also said the reports, which had originated from the police, were exaggerated and that the few cases that were known involved criminals and not terrorists.

Palestinian officers to be tried for death of Palestinian detainee

Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

THE Palestinian Authority's legal adviser said yesterday that four police officers accused of killing a Palestinian detainee will be tried in civil court next month.

Khaled Al-Qudra said they face prison terms for the beating death of Rafiah resident Farid al-Jarba, a suspected informer who died during interrogation.

"The four officers will be tried at the start of September," Al-Qudra said in a telephone interview with AP from his Gaza office. The accused officers were freed a month ago on bail.

The trial announcement came after a volatile week in Rafiah, where a Palestinian Police officer was arrested after shooting dead a 16-year-old boy, sparking riots. The announcement may have been designed to restore Palestinian confidence in the police.

Gen. Nasser Yusef, the overall police commander, said on Israel Radio that he had stopped arresting Hamas activists because the political leadership had not instructed him to do so.

"When we will receive the order, we will arrest Hamas activists, but the PLO leadership had not yet transferred to us such an order," he said.

"The PLO has political reasons for its actions, and its own point of view in the matter," he added.

Meanwhile, him reported that security forces in the Jenin area arrested three PLO activists in addition to the arrests of 12 Hamas and Islamic Jihad activists announced by the army on Monday night. The three were suspected of planning disturbances, him said. There was no confirmation from the army.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rabbis to visit Machpela Cave

Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau and Elihu Bakshi-Doron met with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Chief of Staff Elad Barak yesterday about reopening the Machpela Cave, but no decision was reached on when it would be open for prayers. The chief rabbis asked that the cave be opened for Rosh Hashana, which begins in some two weeks.

It was agreed that Lau and Bakshi-Doron will tour the site to see the changes that have been made inside the cave, and that they will meet again with the prime minister about the issue.

Kibbutz children's rooms phased out

A long-standing tradition of children's rooms at kibbutzim will soon come to an end, when Kibbutz Baram transfers to the family-living system. Kibbutz Baram, in the Upper Galilee, is the last kibbutz to house children together. Its members will meet next week to decide on how to make the transfer, after consulting with other kibbutzim and hearing expert opinions.

Doctors included in recovery plan

The management of the Hadassah Medical Organization and the doctors works committee met yesterday and reached agreement that allows the doctors to participate in the three-year economic recovery plan.

Reexamination of Law of Return urged

Uri Gordon, head of the Jewish Agency's Alitza Department, has appealed to President Ezer Weizman to establish a presidential commission to re-examine the Law of Return, which governs entry of Jews into Israel. There have been enormous changes in the world since the law was adopted by the Knesset, Gordon said in a letter yesterday to Weizman, and it should be reviewed from the Jewish and historic perspectives before going to the Knesset for re-examination.

Concert at Yad Vashem

A concert will take place tonight at 8 p.m. at Yad Vashem's Valley of the Communities featuring Adrian Snell, an English Christian musician who devotes a substantial part of his performances to subjects of Jewish content. His composition to be performed tonight, *Song of an Exile*, is built around Jewish texts from different sources which Snell put to music. Accompanying Snell will be singer Caroline Bonnett and saxophonist David Fitzgerald.

Winning numbers

In last night's weekly Loto drawing, the winning numbers were 4, 5, 8, 15, 25, 26 and the additional number was 18. In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the eight of spades, king of hearts, seven of diamonds and 10 of clubs.

Hizbullah vows to keep fighting until last Israeli soldier leaves

DAVID RUDGE and news agencies

HIZBULLAH'S spiritual leader said yesterday resistance fighters would not lay down their arms until the last Israeli soldier leaves south Lebanon.

"The resistance can not lay down its arms before the pullout of the last Israeli soldier from the south," Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah said at his heavily-guarded residence in the Beirut suburb of Haret Hreik.

Fadlallah dismissed an Israeli offer to pullout from south Lebanon in nine months during which anti-Israeli guerrillas would be disbanded by the Lebanese Army.

"Israel is trying to freeze the resistance so that to begin discussing little details which will delay the withdrawal for years and years."

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said

yesterday that he proposed to Beirut to finalize a withdrawal of his troops from the south in nine months if the Lebanese Army can prove it can stop cross-border guerrilla raids on Israel for a period of six months.

Rabin said the army must also dismantle Hizbullah.

"This plan is not a serious or a pragmatic one," Fadlallah said. "We say the withdrawal first."

Asked if the pullout would mean Lebanon's Muslim militants would end their war against Israel, the white-bearded cleric said: "Who said the resistance would stop?"

IDF sappers yesterday safely destroyed a large cache of weapons that had been discovered the previous day by troops who had been on operational duties in the Beaufort hill range in

the eastern sector of the security zone.

It is believed that the large quantity of arms and ammunition had been hidden by Hizbullah activists ready to be used for attacks against IDF and SLA targets in the zone.

Lebanese radio stations reported yesterday that IDF gunners had again shelled suspected Hizbullah targets in south western parts of the Bekaa valley.

The radio stations reported that Israeli warplanes had also flown a number of mock sorties over parts of the Bekaa valley, including the Hizbullah's stronghold in Ba'albeck on Monday.

The reports said Syrian anti-aircraft batteries had fired at the planes, but did not score any hits.

Israel and Jordan hold border talks

ALON PINKAS

ISRAELI and Jordanian negotiators yesterday began talks on border demarcation of the Hama area south of Lake Kinneret.

They are utilizing satellite photos to help mark the border.

The land in dispute, bordered by the Jordan and Yarmouk Rivers, has been cultivated by the two Ashdot Ya'acov kibbutzim (Imad and Menahem) since 1949.

The talks, held in the newly built

the location of the buoys which will mark the border with Jordan.

The border disputes, which also include a 380-sq.-km strip of land in the Arava, are a contentious issue preventing the signing of an Israeli-Jordanian peace treaty.

According to him, the Beit Gavriel convention center has a room which is already designated for the signing of peace treaties with Jordan and Syria.

Federman's sentence won't be extended

EVELYN GORDON and HERB KEINON

THE state does not intend to extend the administrative detention of Kach activist Noam Federman, the state told the High Court of Justice yesterday. Although Federman's detention is slated to end today, he will remain in jail until September 9, as he is finishing out a two-month criminal sentence imposed in July.

Kach activist Benjamin Gopstein, 25, who has been held in administrative detention for nearly six months, is scheduled to be released this morning from the Sharon Prison in Tel Mond.

Gopstein was among the nine Kach and Kahane Hai activists placed in administrative detention shortly after the Hebron massacre. He was originally placed in administrative detention for three months, and this was extended by another three months. Gopstein is married with two children.

Of the nine Kach and Kahane Hai activists picked up after the Hebron

massacre, only three will remain in administrative detention tomorrow — Kach head Baruch Marzel, Baruch Ben-Yosef and Shmuel Ben-Ya'acov. Ben-Ya'acov and Ben-Yosef are both due to be released in two weeks' time, and Marzel is scheduled to be released in a month.

Marzel began a hunger strike in prison yesterday, protesting that Palestinian terrorists are being released while Yoram Skolnik, convicted of killing a bound terrorist, and Kach and Kahane Hai activists are still being held in administrative detention.

Government attorney Shai Nitzan responded that the Palestinian prisoners are being released for humanitarian and political reasons, which don't apply to the detainees, and therefore there is no discrimination.

Federman also tried to argue at his hearing yesterday that the state is discriminating against the detainees with respect to Palestinian prisoners, saying many of them — even convicted murderers — are now being released. In contrast, Federman said, the detainees have not even been charged with any crime.

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Leaflets denounce Kim Jong Il

SEOUL (AP) — Leaflets calling for the ouster of designated North Korean leader Kim Jong Il have been scattered in the diplomatic district of Pyongyang, a South Korean report said yesterday.

Such leaflets would be the first overt sign of a power struggle against the late North Korean President Kim Il Sung's son and heir-apparent to be reported from the North.

The South Korean national news agency Yonhap quoted an unidentified Western diplomat in Seoul as saying the leaflets, which said "Down with Kim Jong Il," were dropped at embassies in North Korea's capital Friday night or Saturday morning.

That neighborhood is off-limits to North Korean citizens, so the appearance of the leaflets seemed to indicate that some faction among the North Korean power elite was behind them.

"The distribution of the leaflets may aim at making public that there are people who don't agree to Kim Jong Il taking over the leadership of North Korea," Yonhap quoted the source as saying.

Two foreign diplomats contacted in Pyongyang said the report was groundless, however.

"There has been nothing like this, it is just rumors, speculations," said one, who requested anonymity. "I think someone is trying to use this, making this up."

On Sunday, Radio Pyongyang broadcast an appeal to North Koreans warning that unless Kim's dynastic succession is assured, "ambitious persons and conspirators" could undermine the communist party.

The broadcast, summarized by Radio Press, a media monitoring service in Tokyo, did not mention the leaflet incident.

But the broadcast seemed to stray from previous official proclamations that the issue of Kim Jong Il's succession had been settled.

British children change lifestyle

LONDON (Reuters) — British children are taller, worry about the environment and like school, according to an official snapshot of the nation's youngsters being issued today.

A government report entitled *Social Focus on Children* showed weekly pocket money at a record high. It also revealed that boys think the dinosaur epic *Jurassic Park* is the film of the year and that girls see Barbie dolls as their favorite toy.

Children were taller and have better teeth than their parents. Pocket money has reached an average 2.05 pounds (\$3.17) a week, up nine percent on last year. A quarter of Britain's children say they are regular smokers by the time they are 15.

About 75 percent of 11-13 year olds said they liked being at school. Nearly nine out of 10 said they were concerned about the environment, citing deforestation as the biggest global problem.

US: Cubans to stay at Guantanamo, other havens

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration is slamming the door on all Cubans who flee Fidel Castro, refusing to process any of them reaching Guantanamo, Cuba, or other countries as political refugees.

Only Cubans already in the United States or those who manage to make it to the US mainland still can request political asylum under US law, officials say.

With the new policy and reinforced patrols by the Coast Guard, the White House is betting that Cubans will soon find out they cannot get to the United States by raft or boat. But "I'm not sure everybody has gotten the word yet," Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers said yesterday.

Senior Clinton administration officials said refugees who end up at the US Navy base in Cuba or in other countries could remain there indefinitely, since they will no longer be allowed to enter the United States as refugees.

Officials also invited the Cuban government to reopen talks with the United States on an orderly migration to this country.

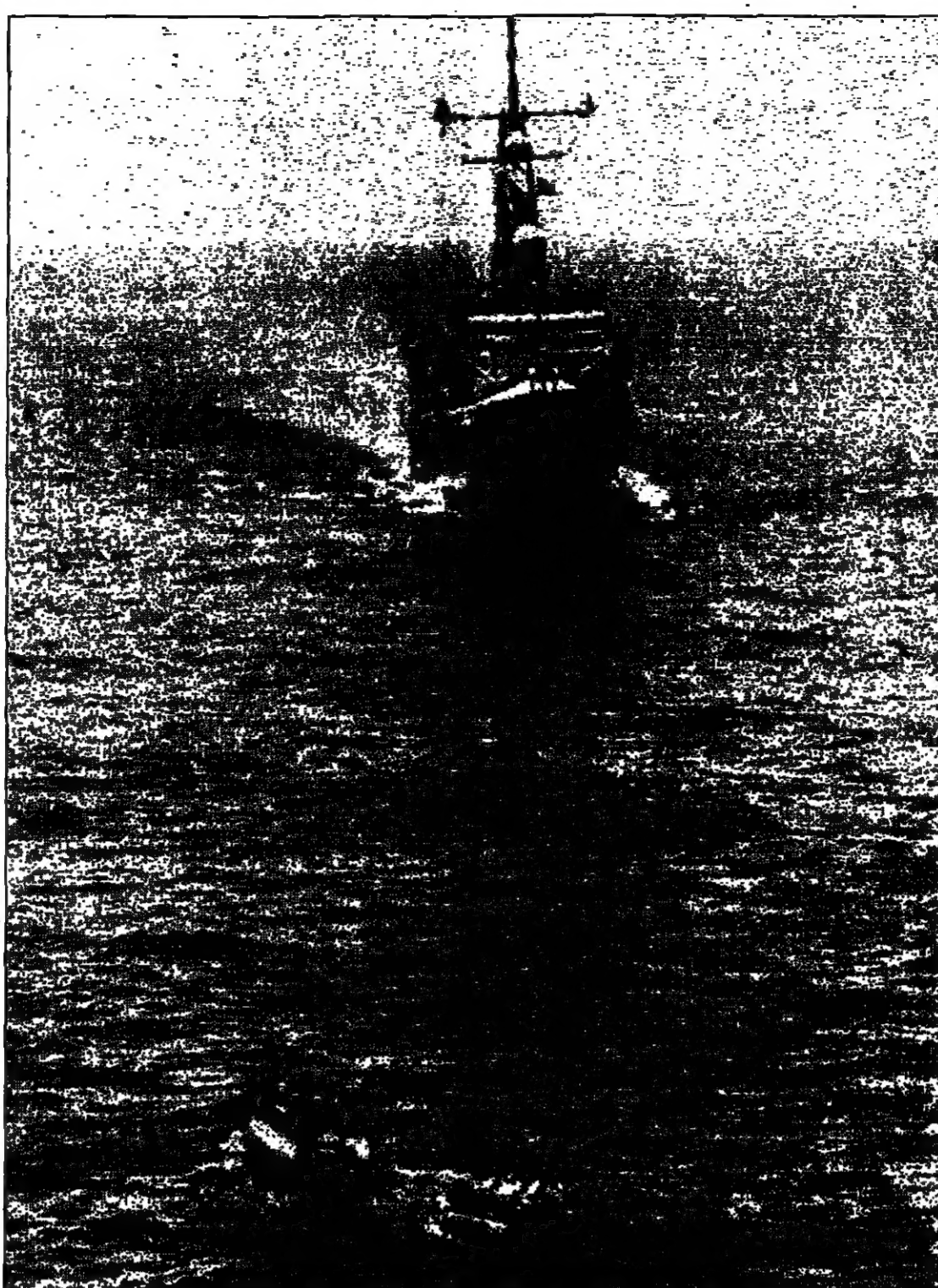
But Undersecretary of State Peter Tarnoff stressed: "There's no prospect of a dialogue on other matters."

Tarnoff said the new policy on political asylum, ending one applied to Cubans for nearly three decades, "are designed to control unauthorized migration, to help address the humanitarian plight of desperate people, and to keep the Castro regime from benefiting from its abuse of human rights."

Cubans who want to come to the United States can apply as immigrants. This year 2,059 have been accepted. The ceiling is 27,845, as it is for most countries.

Another 2,300 Cubans have been allowed entry as political refugees, a channel that now will be closed except for those already in Florida, the few who manage to get there and for Cubans at home.

In Cuba, they can apply for refuge, claiming political persecution, or they can seek to become immigrants if they have close relatives who are US citizens.



A US Navy frigate approaches two rafts of Cuban refugees about 80 kilometers south of the Florida coast. They had been at sea for about two days in an effort to reach the US. (Reuters)

Karadzic predicts solid 'no' vote to peace plan

SARAJEVO (Reuters) — Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic predicted solid rejection of an international peace plan in this weekend's referendum. Military experts said yesterday they feared all-out war in the coming winter.

"I expect 90 to 95 percent of voters to say 'No', judging by what I have seen and heard," Karadzic said in a television interview.

The referendum is being held to judge Bosnian Serb opposition to a proposed territorial settlement that would end the war by splitting the republic roughly equally between a federation of Muslims and Croats and their Serb foes.

The federation has accepted the

plan, devised by officials from a "Contact group" of five major nations and presented in July. The Serbs have refused it, saying it obliges them to give up too much of the 70 percent of Bosnia they now control.

Their rejection of the plan has left them isolated, with Western, Russian and Serbian-led Yugoslavia, at the prompting of Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, all backing the deal.

Anxious to avoid further sanctions and keen to end those imposed for backing the Serbs in the Bosnian war, Yugoslavia has slapped a tough trade blockade on its former proteges and begun a media campaign to discredit Bosnian Serb leaders.

The referendum, which Belgrade has dismissed as a farce, will help shore up the position of Karadzic and other Pale leaders, whose legitimacy is being questioned by Milosevic.

Rwandan refugees quit Bukavu as local tempers fray

BUKAVU, Zaire, (Reuters) — Thousands of Rwandan refugees packed their bags and headed out of Bukavu yesterday as tempers in the increasingly filthy and congested Zairean town become more and more frayed.

From 7 a.m. there was a steady flow of Hutus out of the city center towards Hongu, a new camp opening up for 80,000 people on the windswept shores of Lake Kivu.

"People are clearing out of town incredibly fast," said Jane Pope of the Care charity's Canadian branch. "They are vacating the sites and there's been a steady stream of people."

Movement from Bukavu came as a relief to aid agencies, who have warned that 100,000 refugees in the city center risks triggering massive epidemics and increasingly violent confrontations.

Life in this picturesque lakeside town has been transformed by the

influx of tens of thousands of refugees who are convinced the Tutsi-dominated Rwanda Patriotic Front, which won the civil war, will crack down after France's weekend troop withdrawal from a safe haven in south west Rwanda.

Rwanda's ousted Hutu administration has been accused of the massacre of an estimated 500,000 minority Tutsis following the April 6 assassination of Hutu president Juvenal Habyarimana.

As the Bukavu squatters set out on foot, trucks laid on by aid agencies ferried batches of refugees waiting on the Rwandan side of the Ruzizi river across the frontier and towards Nyamamangwe, another new camp.

After closing its main border crossing on Saturday because it did not want a repeat of last month's Goma catastrophe, Zaire agreed under pressure from the aid agencies to open a less-frequented bridge further south.

DNA tests prove O.J.'s blood at murder scene

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) — Samples taken from a bloody trail leading away from the scene where O.J. Simpson's ex-wife and a friend were murdered match the DNA type of the football legend's blood, according to court papers filed yesterday.

It was the first indication that DNA testing, which is much more accurate than other forms of blood matching, had linked Simpson's blood to the scene of the murders.

The results are preliminary, and prosecutors say more exhaustive tests are needed. DNA stands for deoxyribonucleic acid. It is the basic building block of genetic material.

Simpson, a member of the US football Hall of Fame, has pleaded not guilty to murdering Nicole Brown Simpson, 35, and Ronald Goldman, 25, who were stabbed and slashed to death outside Nicole's Brentwood townhouse on the night of June 12.

Simpson's lawyers had claimed that blood samples were being subjected to unnecessary, duplicating tests that denied scientists hired by the defense access to them.

Deputy District Attorney Marcia Clark, in a motion to the court answering that claim, wrote that the samples were more likely to

implicate Simpson than clear him. "The blood drop trail ... leading away from the murder scene at the rear of Nicole Simpson's residence ... (was) analysed using both the DO Alpha and Polymarker (DNA testing) systems."

"Results show those types match the defendant's type," Clark wrote.

A more definitive test known as RFLP, or Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism, was being conducted on those samples.

Clark said that a blood spot found at Simpson's estate also matched the defendant's DNA blood type in preliminary tests.

The motion also disclosed that a blood spot found on Goldman's shoe was found to belong to Nicole Simpson after RFLP testing. Goldman's blood was also present on his shoe.

Experts say DNA testing, which has been called "genetic fingerprinting," can show with a very high degree of certainty — at least 999,999 chances in a million — that two samples are from the same person.

Clark's motion argued that the defense was not entitled to test blood samples because they were "much more likely to provide incriminatory than exculpatory evidence."

Beer drinkers 'more violent' than wine tipplers

ADELAIDE, Australia (Reuters) — An international study shows beer-swilling nations suffer more assaults and domestic violence than countries which prefer to drink wine, a Dutch crime expert said yesterday.

This is associated with cultural norms rather than inherent qualities in the drinks, said Jan van Dyk, professor of criminology at Netherlands Leyden University.

"There is a statistical relationship between the level of beer consumption and the level of violent crime," van Dyk said, presenting the findings of new research at the eighth International Symposium On Victimology in Australia.

"Countries where people drink a lot of beer have a bravado culture. Drinking lots of beer and getting into a fight are part of normal recreational patterns."

Van Dyk said that in contrast, there was less violent crime in countries where people drank less or drank wine.

He said the results, from surveys of more than 40 countries, were part of a continuing study of the relationship between crime and alcohol consumption.

He said beer-drinking nations — Germany, Netherlands, England, Canada and Australia — stood at one end of the violence spectrum and the southern European wine consumers Italy, Greece, Spain and France at the other.

"I don't think it's the substance itself which makes people violent," van Dyk said.

Traditionally (in southern Europe) you drink wine with the family at the dinner table, whereas in northern Europe there is more of a tradition of males getting together and drinking beer," van Dyk said.

He said the rest of the world should follow Scandinavian countries in heavily taxing alcohol.

Australian state rejects 100-year-old reward claim

MELBOURNE (Reuters) — Australian authorities yesterday ruled out compensation for descendants of two aboriginal trackers who claim the pair went unrewarded for catching the notorious Ned Kelly more than 100 years ago.

The descendants have said they will lodge a writ against the government today claiming a huge Australian \$40 million (US\$29 million) in interest on two 50-year-old bonds.

The government spokesman said recipients of the reward for Kelly's capture included several aboriginal trackers but the government had no information on Wannamutta and Uthung.

disbursed at the time," a spokesman for the state government of Victoria said.

"All the claimants have been paid as far as the records indicate," the spokesman said. "The amount of the claim is vastly extravagant as well."

The claim has been made by descendants of two aboriginals, Wannamutta and Uthung.

The government spokesman said recipients of the reward for Kelly's capture included several aboriginal trackers but the government had no information on Wannamutta and Uthung.

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Arafat of Canaan briefs his generals



ON August 18, Yasser Arafat met with children from a summer camp organized by the League of Young Christians in cooperation with the League for Cultural Affairs at Gaza's Rashad Alshav Cultural Center.

In a speech, he emphasized Jerusalem is always and forever the capital of the Palestinian nation.

Turning to the children, he said: "Do not forget it was I who called you the generals of the stones. The blessed intifada helped the Palestinian revolution during one of the hardest times the Palestinian people has encountered."

"In the course of seven years, the generals of the stones carried out an intifada against the biggest and strongest army in the region, and it could not deal with them."

"You forced them to sign an

agreement in principle with us in Cairo as a preparation for the establishment of the Palestinian state whose capital is Jerusalem. Now you are generals of our Palestinian state, and no longer generals of the stones. We want a nation which will serve as an example of a democratic state."

"It is the right of every one of you to stand up and say 'Oh, Abu Amar, you are wrong. My opinion differs from yours.' Those of you who lit the intifada fire must now act as defenders of this young state, whose capital is Jerusalem. Jerusalem, Jerusalem; it is 'Bir Salem.' Salem was one of the Canaanite kings, one of our forefathers. This city is the capital of our children and our children's children. If not for this belief and conviction of the Palestinian nation, this people would have been erased from the face of the earth, as were so many other nations."

Voice of Palestine Radio, August 18

[Note: We cannot specifically identify Arafat's reference to Bir Salem or a Canaanite king of that name. His general point that Palestinians predate Jews in the region as descendants of Canaanites, or Philistines, Jebusites and

other pre-Israelites has become revisionist old hat - namely, a baseless, unscientific piece of historical disinformation that is now part of the PLO's rewriting of Middle Eastern history. The claim that Jesus was a Palestinian rebel is often made for the benefit of Christian Arabs. Editor, Middle East Page]

"SOMETIMES I feel I am the only Palestinian professor in New York City," says Edward Said, lecturer in comparative English literature at Columbia University. Thus he describes his feelings in carrying out a struggle against the Zionists who enjoy so much influence in New York.

In the eyes of educated opinion makers in the US and England, Said is considered a "super Palestinian." Among the best known literary critics in the world, his standing has enabled him to write and appear in the Western media to an extent not afforded any other Palestinian.

Said has been undaunted in presenting the Palestinian problem as he sees it: centering on the cruel suppression of the Palestinian struggle. He is critical of the Western nations' double standard,

which is related to their support for Israel.

In his new book, *Diplomacy of Dispersal: The Palestinian Struggle for Self-Determination 1969-94*, Said writes that he sees no reason to justify suffering experienced by the Jews as a result of the supposed Holocaust in order to deflect opinion from Israel's policy of denying the Palestinians their rights, and in order to excuse Israel from the norms under which the rest of the world operates.

Said maintains Israel is not a racist state on the old model of South Africa. But it acts not as a sovereign state, but as the state of the Jewish people which is not concerned with its citizens' religious affiliations. The citizenship laws of Israel are, he emphasizes, based on clear racist discrimination under which all Jews have the right to immigrate to Israel, while Palestinians are denied rights, no matter how long their families have lived in Palestine.

Al Quds, Jerusalem, August 9

IN an interview, Faisal Hussein said: "Nabil Sha'ath pointed to a 'solution of compromise' regarding Jerusalem. What does this mean?"

"Jerusalem complete is Palestinian land, both east and west. We have full rights to western Jerusalem. But under the current circumstances, we are prepared to discuss the matter and reconsider our claims regarding Jerusalem in its entirety, and to follow only UN Resolutions 242 and 338, which refer only to eastern Jerusalem. This is the framework in which we are talking about cooperation."

Radio Saut al Arab, August 15

PALESTINIAN sources in Amman said Palestinians who oppose the autonomy agreement are thinking of proclaiming a new coalition. It would include leftist factions and parties from the Palestinian left, as well as independent personalities.

The sources said the group will be named the Nationalist Democratic Palestinian Coalition and will include the National Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Arab Liberation Front, the Palestinian People's Party - formerly the Communists - plus independent personalities like Dr. Haider Abdel Shafi and Ghassan Shakar.

Abri, Jordan, August 18

YASSER Abed-Rabbo, Palestinian information minister, visited Jenin on August 14. He met public personalities, members of the operating office of the Palestinian Democratic Alliance Party (PADA), and Chamber of Commerce members.

Abed Rabbo said: "The struggle of the Palestinian people brought the liberation of Gaza and Jericho and the continuation of the struggle for the liberation of the rest of Palestine."

"The dead, wounded and imprisoned paved the way for the return, and we promise them to continue until we remove the occupation from every piece of land in occupied Palestine, until the establishment of the Palestinian state."

"Palestine will be free and independent for all Palestinians. We will continue the struggle until the return of all Palestinians..."

"We have started on the first steps on our way, but the end of the way is still hard and requires struggle. The Palestinian National Authority will act to strengthen national unity, which is the way of all Palestinians toward Jerusalem."

Al Quds, Jerusalem, August 15

Tunisia silences political Islamists

ELAINE GANLEY
TUNIS

WHILE Moslem fundamentalists elsewhere do battle with their governments, sit in parliaments or preach, in Tunisia they are silent - of jailing, in hiding, or dead.

A crusade to squelch any traces of political Islam in this most Westernized of Arab nations has by all accounts succeeded, at least in the short term.

The banned party En Nahda, or Renaissance, won 17 percent of the vote in 1989 legislative elections, running its candidates as independents. Then the crackdown began. Now, even party officials concede En Nahda is impotent.

"In this context, there is no question of political action," said Habib Mokni, a founding member who now lives in Paris. En Nahda, he said, is "condemned to a clandestine existence."

Mokni was sentenced in absentia to life in prison in a 1991 military trial of dozens of fundamentalists convicted of plotting to overthrow President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali.

It was one of numerous plots authorities claim to have uncovered.

Tunisia became skittish about fundamentalists early, unlike neighboring Algeria. The Tunisians held their first trial of fundamentalists in 1981, when En Nahda was founded.

Habib Bourguiba, who led Tunisia to independence from France in 1956 and ruled until Ben Ali ousted him in 1987, set its secular Western course, introducing a family code that in many ways freed women of Islam's constraints. Polygamy was outlawed four months after independence, family planning became a national concern in 1961, and abortion was legalized in 1973.

To show that nation-building was his prime concern, Bourguiba once went on television during the month of Ramadan and urged citizens to stop fasting and eat. He said he would hold himself accountable to God.

Ben Ali has sought a middle ground, putting daily prayer calls on television and fundamentalists in jail. Thousands are thought to be imprisoned and some were executed.

En Nahda does not openly condemn Tunisia's modernist course, but focuses on the lack of democratic freedoms.

"Our activity has never been against the West," Mokni said. "We ourselves feel Westernized. We have never favored application of the Shari'a (Islamic law). We work for conciliation between Islam and modernity."

It is impossible to measure the movement's following.

En Nahda's president, Rachid Ghannouchi, lives as a political refugee in London, a sort of guru of fundamentalists around the world.

He is despised by Tunisian authorities, who expelled a BBC correspondent this year for quoting from a statement by him.

"The Islamic threat is real," said Salaheddine Maoui, head of Tunisia's external communications agency. "It is always there. It waits. We need only to let down our guard... and it can return."

Nahda bides its time.

"We must be patient," Mokni said. "Nothing is eternal. We live with our principles and our hope."

(AP)



Iraqi women stand in line for government milk rations in front of a mural of president Saddam Hussein in Baghdad. Living conditions in the country continue to deteriorate as UN-imposed sanctions enter their fourth year. (AP)

Iraq's race against collapse escalates

JACK REDDEN
BAGHDAD

ON one side, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein presides over a sinking economy, where children beg on the streets and inflation has pushed much of the population into poverty.

On the other, Saddam sees foreign governments questioning US determination to keep Iraq isolated and the arrival of increasing numbers of businessmen anxious to renew trade.

"Now it is a race," said a diplomat.

The quickening pace has become clear in recent months, with people wondering which will end first: Saddam's hold on power or the UN oil embargo that has hobbled Iraq for four years.

The pressure showed in Saddam's decision to take public control of the economy two months ago, and issue decrees to slow inflation and conserve hard currency needed for vital imports.

His imposition of price controls had a predictable effect. Tomatoes and potatoes have disappeared from public markets, but can usually be found on the black market for prices two or three times the official level.

This is a new blow to the man in the street, who has seen living conditions decline relentlessly since UN sanctions - which ban oil exports and imports other than food and medicine - were imposed after Saddam's invasion of Kuwait four years ago.

"When I came in September I didn't find street children," said Subhash Das-Gupta, UNICEF chief in Baghdad. "They have gone from selling to begging. The next stage - crime - is not far off."

THAT IS the human face to grim statistics such as the 20 percent of elementary school children who, Das-Gupta estimates, are no longer attending classes.

A country which had a respected health-care system before the invasion of Kuwait is now battling rising rates of everything from cholera to malaria.

"Initially Iraqis were very proud, they refused everything," said Dr. Bassam Qasem, an epidemiologist at the UN's World Health Organization office. "Now they accept anything."

Figures used by the WHO show that by last February, the frequency of low birth weight in Basra,

deep in the south of Iraq, was nearly five times the rate reported in 1990.

That finding, reflecting the mothers' poor nutrition, helps explain why the WHO says the death rate for under-fives is now nearly seven times the 1989 level.

Deaths are also explained by a deterioration in drinking water, blamed on breakdowns in water systems and a lack of gas for chlorination. According to WHO, tests done in June showed that 20 percent of Baghdad's water was contaminated - better at least than the 34 percent figure for Basra.

The government has tried to ease hardships through a rationing system that provides about 70 percent of daily food needs. But the estimated \$1 billion a year in foreign currency to finance food imports is now in question.

No one knows if Iraq is close to exhausting its funds hidden abroad, or is just taking precautions in case sanctions are prolonged. But an effort to conserve hard currency is clear.

Since becoming prime minister as well as president two months ago, Saddam has imposed high exit taxes to discourage travel and added 91 products from shampoo to fish to a list of banned imports. Diplomats have been ordered to change license plates, with fees paid in dollars.

At home, Saddam has acknowledged a crime wave by ordering Islamic law for car theft - cutting off the thief's hand. So far, there is no indication the punishment has been carried out, or that the threat has had any effect.

But Saddam's hopes rest on international politics, not on orders that have no influence on Iraq's main problem, the ban on oil exports which produce the country's foreign income.

He has been buoyed by growing doubts about whether London and Washington will continue to refuse to lift the oil embargo until he obeys Gulf War UN resolutions that go far beyond recognizing Kuwait and destroying weapons of mass destruction.

Other permanent members of the Security Council - France, Russia and China - might be ready to lift the embargo if Iraq just accepts the newly demarcated border of Kuwait and accounts for 600 missing Kuwaitis.

(Reuters)

Egypt-Sudan spat leaves diplomats in the dark

CAIRO - Sudanese and Egyptian diplomats have a dim view of each other these days. Cutting electricity to each other's embassy has become the latest tactic in a diplomatic battle.

Diplomats on both sides also reported this week that they have no running water and few telephone lines.

The utility duel is the latest episode in the deepening rift between Egypt and Sudan that involves a land dispute along with allegations of terrorism and mistreatment of diplomats.

Sudan's embassy in Cairo has been without electricity and water since last Thursday, diplomats said as they sat in their hot, dark quarters.

"This is an escalation and retaliation," said Ibrahim Matar, the Sudanese consul. "We have a problem."

The telephone operator at Egypt's embassy in the Sudanese capital, Khartoum, said the building had been without light and water since Sunday.

Egypt's Middle East News Agency said that electricity and water also had been cut to Egypt's defense office in Khartoum.

In recent weeks, both sides have filed formal protests about diplomats being roughed up on the streets.

Cairo has complained that Sudan has confiscated a number of rest houses used by agricultural teams, homes used by teachers and the Egyptians' social club in Khartoum.

Hassan Gad el-Haq, Egypt's ambassador to Sudan who currently is in Cairo on holiday, called for an end to the tit-for-tat incidents.

RELATIONS between the neighboring countries began souring during the 1990-91 Gulf crisis, in which Sudan backed Iraq, while Egypt participated in the US-led coalition that liberated Kuwait.

The rift deepened in 1991, when Sudan attempted to lease oil rights off the coast of Halaib, a disputed triangle of land in southeast Egypt.

The Egyptian and Sudanese foreign ministers met in Cairo last June to try to work out their differences. But no further sessions have been held.

(AP)

Moslem Brotherhood raps UN population conference

CAIRO - Egypt's largest fundamentalist group, the Moslem Brotherhood, on Monday urged rejection of the UN population conference program until it is brought in line with Islamic beliefs.

It was the latest attack by Moslem fundamentalists on the conference, which opens September 5 in Cairo.

Egyptian lawyers are seeking a court order to block the conference from being held. The Al-Azhar organization issued a statement saying conference proposals on abortion and sex education contradicted Islamic principles.

Conference officials have answered the criticism by saying that the draft report being complained about is not yet final and can be changed in the meeting itself.

They also note that in its final form the report will not be binding on the world's governments.

However, family planning experts fear the Moslem and Catholic campaigns will override the International Conference on Population and Development's goal - to seek a consensus on how to deal with the world's burgeoning

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The emerging police state

SOON after the Oslo agreement was signed, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said he was confident that once the PLO achieves self-rule it would pursue Islamic terrorism "without the constraints of a Supreme Court and the pressures of human rights organizations." What he obviously meant was that he expected the PLO, an organization hardly famous for its democratic ways, to be much more ruthless and effective in suppressing terrorism than Israel could ever be. Unfortunately, his forecast has proved true only in that the PLO lacks constraints. The organization truly has no high courts and humanitarian groups to worry about, but it seems also to have no desire to confront Hamas and Islamic Jihad terrorists. As commander in chief of the Palestinian Police Nasser Yusef confirmed yesterday, the political leadership of the PLO has given no orders to go after the terrorists. Indeed, in the three months of self-rule, no Israeli leads have been followed, no terrorists have been arrested, and none punished.

Instead, the PLO has been exerting its unfettered energies in a different direction: the establishment of a reign of terror, a police state, in areas under its control. Since the beginning of self-rule, Fatah Hawks have killed dozens of "collaborators." Palestinian police have killed at least two innocent teenagers who failed to obey them promptly. Yasser Arafat banned two newspapers that failed to praise him enthusiastically enough, and this week a women's conference scheduled to

meet in Jerusalem had to be canceled because its organizer - a member of the PFLP "opposition" - and her children were threatened with death by Fatah men.

As a *Washington Post* news story put it on Monday, "Many Palestinians share suspicions about PLO officials heading the self-rule Palestine National Authority after long exiles in Arab states with little tradition of dissent or official accountability. The longtime residents of Gaza and Jericho worry that the former exiles will seek to impose similar authoritarian patterns on them."

That such suspicions exist is due only to the Palestinian population's exposure to Israeli democracy. For all the poisonous propaganda about Israeli "oppression," it is contact with Israel that has made residents of the territories resent the encroachment of Arafat's dictatorial rule. And if Palestinian self-rule becomes a copy of the PLO ministration in Lebanon in the 1970s, or a faithful imitation of other Arab regimes, the inhabitants' initial joy in flag and uniform will seem hollow indeed.

For Israel, too, the emergence of a Palestinian police state bodes ill. Not only is such a development guaranteed to dash all hope for economic and political collaboration between Israel and the Palestinian entity, it makes Palestinian irredentism, the threat of instability on Israel's borders, and the danger of aggression from a Palestinian state in alliance with other dictatorships almost inevitable.

Free and mostly fair

IT is perhaps unfortunate that Mexico's ruling party won such a resounding victory in Sunday's presidential and general elections. A more modest win would have made it much easier for the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), after 65 years of fraudulent polls, to convince the public that this one really was squeaky clean.

The trouble with credibility is that, once lost, it is hard to recover. The PRI's history has been so laden with cheating and lies that the main opposition has refused to accept strong evidence that, at the very least, this election was a vast improvement on previous efforts.

President-elect Ernesto Zedillo now faces a hard slog to win full respect at home and abroad for Mexico as a maturing and growing democracy. According to international and independent Mexican observers, there were indeed irregularities, especially in the rural areas, but initial expert opinion was that they were probably not serious enough to affect the outcome.

Such faults as late opening or closing of voting stations, insufficient ballot papers, or confusion over registration papers in a mobile rural community are not unknown in developing democracies - they were acknowledged in South Africa earlier this year without discrediting the main parties. The difference in Mexico is that the PRI has always denied cheating in the past, despite colossal evidence to the contrary.

But the crucial point of this election, which drew unprecedented international attention, is that it was Mexico's first as a member of the North

American Free Trade Association, alongside two of the world's most impeccable democracies, the United States and Canada.

The big win for the PRI is proof that Mexicans have preferred stability to change, and at this stage of the country's economic development under NAFTA, that is probably a good thing. Zedillo, a quiet and reserved Yale-trained economist, is guaranteed to strengthen market-oriented policies already in force. There is indeed room, as Zedillo has promised, for vast improvements in Mexico's rickety and poverty-ridden social structure, but the president's policies are likely to underpin such changes with the solid economics he was trained in - free trade, balanced budgets, and the opening of some restricted areas to foreign investment.

Key American businessmen quickly dismissed the reports of election irregularities. One, George Kanus, a principal of Group CMK Inc., a project development and investment banking firm in San Antonio that specializes in taking US companies into Mexico, said he would tell businesses he deals with that they should expand south. "The time is now," he said.

That is good news for Mexico. The opposition would be wise simply to make any necessary legal objections to election irregularities on a case-by-case basis, and not behave like populist Third World bad losers. The best service they can render Mexico now is to provide firm, democratic opposition and impress the public enough to give them another crack at gaining power in six years' time.



Rabin's new ideology

GILBERT and Sullivan fans will recall the famous couple from *HMS Pinafore*: Things are seldom what they seem.

Skim milk masquerades as cream.

Nowhere is the deceptiveness of appearances more evident than the rough-and-tumble world of politics. But democratic and parliamentary regimes have developed a culture with rules and conventions about telling (or not telling) the truth. Unfortunately, Prime Minister Rabin has not only violated the rules blatantly; he has also tried to justify these violations in terms of ideology.

Just two months ago, he publicly declared that no taxes would be levied on capital gains made on the stock market "as long as I am prime minister."

As we know, it took no more than two discouraging monthly cost-of-living readings to change his mind.

Confronted with his broken promise, the PM shrugged and cavalierly explained not only that circumstances had changed, but also that where devaluation and taxes are concerned, "prime ministers and finance ministers shouldn't be expected to tell the whole truth."

Maybe not. But not telling the whole truth isn't the same as lying. The prime minister didn't say, two months ago, "Don't ask me about capital gains taxes, since I can't be expected to tell the whole truth." Nor did he say, "There will be no such taxes unless present circumstances change drastically."

He categorically stated that as long as he was in charge, there would be no capital gains taxes.

GABRIEL BEN-DOR

Well, Rabin is still prime minister, and his government has just decided to levy the tax that he denied would ever be possible under his government.

Either he knew two months ago that the tax was in the offing - in which case he lied blatantly - or else circumstances changed so drastically that he had no choice.

but to change his policy - thereby violating his explicit promise.

When this sort of thing happens, politicians in parliamentary democracies usually resign, if that is the only alternative to breaking their word. Instead, Rabin has tried to make virtue out of what he considered necessity.

LEADING A country isn't like running a business corporation, in which the only thing that counts is the bottom line. A state is a moral community, one in which people obey the law and comply with the policies of their legitimately elected leaders when they believe they are justified.

MARK L. LEVINSON

well from what perspective to view that claim. We knew no one was attacking our inborn right to drink Lieber or Tekla coffee.

In 1992, we knew how to view Labor's campaign slogan, and we know how to view the Golan slogan too. It's an oversimplification - but what advertising isn't? It's

What newscasters can't do for products, ex-presidents shouldn't do for politics

like appropriating the flag, but what political party doesn't appropriate the flag?

A SLOGAN that worries me more is "Weizman for prime minister." The *Post* has reported some sentiment, partly from the Diaspora, that Ezer Weizman would make a fine successor to Rabin.

The problem, irrespective of Weizman's qualifications, is that while no trumped-up consensus should protect any political figure or position from attack, our president is supposed to be an apolitical consensus figure, the custodian of an arm that belongs to the state rather than to himself.

The man does not make policy, so he can go greet foreign leaders and conduct solemn ceremonies on behalf of the nation - inclusive of all its citizens - without risking picket signs, caustic and other assaults on his dignity.

Erosion in the president's apolitical standing began, retroactively, with Yitzhak Navon. If the Likud had known that Navon would step out of the presidency into the Knesset, being president

In Israel, people serve decades in the military and put their lives on the line innumerable times. They also pay one of the highest tax bills in the world, believing that the ultimate public good and the country's security requires it.

If they are told lies, they will begin to have grave doubts about making such sacrifices, and rightly so.

And if lying about taxes is acceptable, why not about territories and other critically important matters?

We must reject the premier's glib arguments about the acceptability of lying to the public. If we do not, we will be colluding to undermine the moral fiber of the Israeli political community.

The best we can hope for is that Rabin has put his foot in his mouth yet again.

While he has had a long and distinguished career, saying the right thing at the right time has never been the premier's strong suit. It would be tragic indeed if a fascinating career were to be marred by the memory of Rabin's idealization of untruthfulness in politics.

I am certain that many of the prime minister's admirers would like to see him retract his unfortunate pronouncement. He should not be ashamed to do it.

Rabin, a very successful general, should heed the advice of the Duke of Wellington, who defined greatness in a general as knowing "when to retreat and to dare to do it."

The writer is professor of political science at the University of Haifa and academic director for the Graduate Studies Program at the IDF's National Security College.

Night owls

ROBERT STANGARONE

IT'S 3:18 a.m. The soft, blue glow of the computer screen, the tapping on the keyboard and the accompanying hardware hum will be my world for the next several hours - a world of self-imposed isolation and silence.

Phones will not ring, nor doorbells chime. Kids will not interrupt. There's no laughter from a distant television or pounding beat from a stereo. I am taking advantage of one of the more valuable untapped resources we have as a species: time. Specifically, nighttime.

To those who know my early morning ways, I am abnormal. Not in a deranged way, but in the "major percentile group" sense. And they are right. To them, I appear to have a sleeping disorder, because my day begins between 3 and 4 a.m. and ends around 9 p.m.

Despite the apparent eccentricity of it, there is great potential value in these predawn hours: value to the individual, to our companies and to our society. And yet, with all our new technology and our burning desire to reinvent and re-engineer our lives and our world, we seem to be letting our most precious resource - time - slip through our fingers.

Society crams activity into a frenzied day of 12 hours. But there's a whole untapped sea of time out there

Expensive revenue-producing, life-enhancing resources sit idle or near-idle in the darkness. Office buildings, computers, medical and educational facilities, power plants, libraries, golf courses, retail shops - almost everything goes from assets to liabilities as we, ironically, search for ways to do more with less and become more competitive.

TO BE sure, shifting operations to nighttime or using resources around the clock would not now be practical for most companies. But many could find immediate advantage by easing into the fringes of the traditional workday and then gradually expanding deeper into the night as benefits, confidence and practicality take hold.

At first only a few companies will have the flexibility to make a major shift. But in time, others will follow. A new culture will begin to emerge. It will seem odd for a while, even cultist. But like any societal movement, people will adapt, companies will prosper and the night will become more familiar.

There will be obstacles, of course. Few people want to work at night, so it will be necessary to create incentives such as a shorter work week with full pay and benefits, or longer vacations. The suppliers or contractors or administrators they must deal with may not be available during the night. In time they will be. Meanwhile, voice mail and other products of modern technology can fill the gap.

Capital equipment, such as airplanes, provides extraordinary potential. Idle airplanes do not add to profits. Encouragements could encourage business and leisure travelers to travel at night: free hotel rooms, certificates for free dinners at fine restaurants, sleeper seats, free transportation to and from the airport, or night bonus points for frequent-flyer programs.

Our universities sit empty for most of the night. Financial incentives could make it attractive for students to take advantage of those facilities during untraditional hours.

And is there any reason why road construction must be done during the day, especially during rush hours? Traffic jams mean higher fuel consumption, magnifying the disadvantages of cramming life into a 12-hour window.

Some gains from shifting to nighttime operations are obvious. One would be the leveling of energy demand, saving enormous amounts of energy. But there are also likely to be unanticipated advantages for companies, such as reduced time off for workers to take care of medical needs and other personal requirements.

In addition, there are potential quality-of-life benefits from non-traditional work hours.

Most summer afternoons, much of the continental US is baked in 90- to 100-degree temperatures. A workday shift to the very early hours could provide a welcome respite for those who work outdoors. It is technology that can help us break the old-fashioned constraints on how we use time, but hardware alone cannot do the job. We also must have workers, managers and leaders who are able to break tradition and see the world in terms of both space and time.

The writer is a corporate executive and former journalist. (Washington Post)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE OTHER CHEEK

Sir, - Never in the tragic history of warfare have the victorious victims of genocidal attacks been so supportive of enemies still bent on their destruction. Such is the remarkable news from Israel, especially its virtual endorsement of arch-terrorist Arafat in Gaza and Jericho - with more land gifts to come in Judea and Samaria, from a nation as small as New Jersey!

What other sovereign government has so chosen, in victory, "to turn the other cheek..." as a basis for strategic diplomacy?

Most curious is the generosity toward a nongovernmental person, the unelected head (even by Mid-East standards) of an umbrella terrorist organization (PLO). Arafat's performance has been marred, to say the least, by internal opposition, autocratic yet chaotic mismanagement and delays, continuing blackmail demand for more outside funding, and failure to curb terrorist attacks as promised.

Hardly anyone now mentions UN Resolutions 242 and 338 which at least held forth some prospects of safe, viable borders and "recognition" for Israel. But this is no time to gamble with the survival of a small, brave, democratic nation. For peace is an active idea like love, justice or success - intoxicating, politically correct, desirable, and perhaps fatal. The peace of the dead - or the living?

DR. JOSEPH BRANDES
Fair Lawn, New Jersey.

STAMPS WANTED

Sir, - I am interested in receiving used stamps which I classify for Akim's Gaster Hostel for disabled adults. Proceeds from the sale of the stamps serve to raise the quality of life of the hostel's residents.

Please send your used stamps to the undersigned at the Parents' Home, 52 Bethlehem Road, Room 12, Jerusalem.

ADOLF SAENGER
Jerusalem.

JEWISH PRIORITIES

Sir, - Sue Fishkoff's article of August 7, "US Reform rabbis asked to back peace policies," is extremely disturbing. Rather than work harder to stem the monstrous inroads of assimilation among American Jewry, officials of the Reform Movement in America have issued a decree to their constituent rabbis to tout the peace process from their pulpits on Rosh Hashana.

What an insult to the intelligence of the members of Reform synagogues! Are they incapable of interpreting the news and reaching their own conclusions about the peace process? The leadership claims that only "a small but vocal minority of American Jews" oppose Rabin's policies. How do they know? On what basis do they make that claim? Even if such Jews were only a minority does that immediately make their opinions negligible?

Tel Aviv.

ITTA HOROL

WORK TOGETHER

Sir, - Carol Pollard's claim ("Pollard's lawyers plan new appeal," *J.P.*, August 3) that the Canadian campaign for justice for Jonathan Pollard which has been conducted so effectively by Esther Zeitz Pollard is "unauthorized" does a tremendous disservice to both Jonathan Pollard and Esther, his wife, in that it could destabilize their efforts and the efforts of all who seek Jonathan Pollard's release from an unjust prison sentence.

We can hasten the day of Jonathan Pollard's freedom only by working together, by combining our efforts toward the shared goal - not by hindering and endangering progress through personal and dangerously divisive attacks.

HELEN SMOLACK,
President,
Toronto Zionist Council

THE RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY

Sir, - I refer to Sue Fishkoff's article of August 7, "US Reform rabbis asked to back peace process."

First, Alan Ades, a respected lay leader of Conservative Judaism, is President of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ), not the Rabbinical Assembly (RA).

Second, while Mr. Ades correctly notes that the United Synagogue does not intend to send out High Holy Day materials to Conservative rabbis regarding Israel's peace process, this does not reflect indifference to the historic events occurring in the Middle East but rather the fact that sermonic material is disseminated to the RA, not the USCJ. The RA expects most of our membership to address the Israeli quest for peace and security at some point during the Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur services. Consequently, this year's annual High Holy Day mailing to colleagues includes an eloquent sermon by Rabbi Moshe Teitelbaum of Jerusalem providing a religious perspective in which to focus our prayers that Israel's courage and determination will yield tangible peace with its Arab neighbors.

RABBI ALAN SILVERSTEIN,
President,
Rabbinical Assembly
New York.

SYMBOLIC SIGNIFICANCE

Sir, - I hope it is lost on no one, the symbolic significance that it is the Germans who are the first to establish an official "office" in Jericho, to "assist" Arafat's "people."

ANNA RUBIN
Jerusalem.

Lab takes (some) guesswork out of archeology

A US metallurgist uncovers the truth about artifacts found here and elsewhere, Rosa Salter reports

SOME of the most spectacular discoveries of biblical archeology are being made in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, that is.

That is where Lehigh University metallurgist Michael Notis runs a laboratory which analyzes archeological finds from the Middle East, the Far East and elsewhere. His staff confirms and, often, upsets the theories scholars have about the artifacts they uncover by studying them through electron microscopes.

"I believe in general that archeological finds support biblical texts," Notis said. "But the Bible is not a technological text, and people have limitations in how they read the text."

By placing tiny objects, or even thier shreds of artifacts' metal, under the high-powered instruments, Notis and his students have been able to reveal the objects' original fabrication, and the technological sophistication of their makers.

The research even has provided clues to the origin of the ores of some ancient pieces, in one case rewriting an object's likely history.

"The thing that I do is I tap the memory of archeological materials," Notis said of his technique. "I'm interested in the comparison of physical evidence to textual description."

As one of only a handful of specialists in his field, the professor has found his analytical services much in demand among those who try to reconstruct the ancient past.

Notis's lab collaborates with archeologists around the world, but perhaps the most productive of his collaborations has been with Israeli archeologists working on biblical-era digs.

Recently, Notis showcased his findings, techniques, laboratories and equipment during a three-day conference, "The Archeology of Israel: Constructing the Past, Interpreting the Present," held at Lehigh University.

Sponsored by the university's Philip and Muriel Berman Center for Jewish Studies, the scholarly event was attend-



Metallurgist Michael Notis (inset) has analyzed finds from, among other ancient sites, Tel Mique. (The Israel Exploration Society, 'The Allentown Morning Call')

ed by about 150 people and featured four archeologists from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, where the Berman Center for Biblical Archeology.

Notable among participants was the Jerusalem center's internationally famed director, Trude Dothan, whose discoveries about the Philistines have all but reversed biblical portrayals of these enemies of the early Israelites as unsophisticated barbarians.

In the mid-1980s, Notis said, Dothan began sending him samples from digs at Tel Mique, on the southern Mediterranean coast, for metallurgical analysis.

Tel Mique contains the remains of the Philistine city of Ekron, one of five capitals established after the Philistines, likely an Aegean people, migrated to the Middle East. Ekron was then destroyed by the Babylonians about 600 BCE during the time of King Nebuchadnezzar.

Among the artifacts Dothan's group sent were tools of copper, iron and bronze, and silver ingots and jewelry stashed in treasure troves by Ekron's inhabitants, who perhaps hoped to return to their city after the siege. The latter items, Dothan has said, are among the most dramatic of her group's finds.

Notis said metallurgical microanalysis has sometimes proved more accurate than archeological experts' interpretations and even texts at reconstructing history.

He pointed to one group of objects, a set of mace heads, crowns and scepters from a dig in a cave in the Judean Desert. A previous analysis had the artifacts made of an alloy of copper and arsenic.

But Notis questioned that as mineralogically unlikely, given the nature of the area's ore deposits, and an analysis he conducted of a similar object showed that the material thought to be arsenic was actually another element, antimony.

Notis's theory was later confirmed by other experts who examined the objects in question, he said.

It is with a certain amount of scholarly angle that Notis, who is active in Jewish life, points out that a scriptural description of the Ark of the Covenant is metallurgically impossible.

In the Talmud, he said, the ark is described as being made of heavy acacia wood, holding two stone tablets containing the Ten Commandments, and hanging from four cast and hammered gold he rings.

"I'd like to propose that the physical properties of cast gold don't permit an ark of that size and weight to be lifted by four gold rings through it," Notis said of with a wry smile.

"Either there is a misunderstanding in the text or there is something going on in the rings other than them being made of pure gold."

Similarly, he added, a biblical description of Goliath as carrying a "javelin of brass" between his shoulders must be an error in translation because brass wasn't available in the Middle East until Roman times.

Notis's expertise has led to collaborations with specialists from the University of Pennsylvania's archeology museum working to uncover objects from caves in Jordan. The Allentown, Pennsylvania, resident also has worked as a consultant to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC, and to the Museum of Japanese History in Tokyo.

Recently at the lab, graduate-student assistant Kathy Repa was looking at a fragment from a ceremonial samurai sword. She turned up the contrast on a computer screen and an image suddenly popped out: a face with a broad raised nose, wide lips and round eyes that suddenly turned a bright, fluorescent green.

No larger than the nail of a child's little finger, the face was of a Japanese demon called an *oni* and once decorated the sword's handle.

That the figure's eyes, barely the size of the point of a pin, turn green, Repa explained, meant that they were made of pure gold and, by extension, that about 300 years ago, when the sword was made, a Japanese craftsman knew how, and cared enough, to do the painstaking metal work to produce them.

Notis added that metallurgical microanalysis techniques also have their limits. For example, he said, it's still difficult to determine exactly where ore in a metal object was mined.

One thing is sure: without the contributions of modern metallurgy, today's archeologists wouldn't know all that they do.

(The Allentown Morning Call)

When the law defends a leading Holocaust denier

Despite previous failures, Canada's Jewish community continues its legal fight against Ernst Zundel, Rick Kardonne reports from Toronto

ONE of the world's leading disseminators of Nazi propaganda and Holocaust denial material in both German and English has applied for Canadian citizenship.

Ernst C.F. Zundel, a German citizen, has been living in downtown Toronto and publishing with the tacit permission of the democratic socialist provincial government of Ontario, Canada's most populous region.

His request for citizenship has provoked a general wave of disgust in Canada, where native groups as well as war vets and other patriotic interests are backing B'nai B'rith's call for Zundel's prosecution.

From an ornate Victorian mansion in Toronto's artsy-trendy Cabbagetown district, Zundel, 56, exports millions of racist books, pamphlets, magazines, newsletters and videos to over 40 countries.

Zundel, according to Ekart Wertebach, Germany's top Nazi-watcher, "is one of the six most important publishers and distributors of such material to Germany."

Zundel also has a representative in Munich named Bela Ewald Althaus, who runs a neo-Nazi organization for him out of what Zundel calls "his" office. Althaus was very active in helping to organize German neo-Nazis as volunteer fighters in Iraq during the Gulf war and for Croatia in the ongoing civil war in parts of former Yugoslavia. As Zundel's lackey in Germany, Althaus was involved in organizing the hundreds of militant neo-Nazis who were transported in 1992 to Rostock, where they firebombed refugee hotels and rioted for a week.

Zundel immigrated to Canada

from Kalmbach, southern Germany, in 1958. In the early 1960s he was taken under the wing of Montreal Nazi activist Adrien Arcand before moving to Toronto. In 1976 he issued his first pro-Nazi publications calling for the release of Rudolf Hess. In the mid-1970s he published a 35-page Holocaust denial booklet entitled *Did Six Million Really Die?* which aroused the ire of Sabina Citron, Holocaust survivor and founder of the Canadian Holocaust Remembrance Association.

Citron asked the then-attorney-general of Ontario, Roy McMurtry, a Conservative, to charge Zundel under section 319(2) of Canada's Criminal Code which makes it an offense to willfully promote hatred against an identifiable group.

When McMurtry still would not take action against Zundel, Citron, in 1983, laid private charges against Zundel under another Canadian law, the False News Law, which makes it an offense to publicly disseminate information known to be false or misleading. McMurtry, facing the embarrassing probability of Citron going to court and prosecuting Zundel herself, had the provincial government take over the case.

Zundel was tried in Toronto in 1985. His defense lawyer turned the trial into a media circus in which defense witnesses came from all over the world to say, among other things, that Auschwitz was really a holiday resort with swimming pools.

Of Toronto's three daily newspapers, the highbrow-oriented *Globe and Mail* and the liberal *Star* actually championed Zundel's alleged right of "freedom of speech."

Only the tabloid *Sun* showed no sympathy. The *Globe and Mail*

even ran the headline "Lawyer disputes crematorium theory."

Nonetheless, the jury convicted Zundel and he was sentenced to 15 months in prison. He immediately appealed, and two years later the Ontario Court of Appeal granted Zundel a new trial. All this time, during the appeal process, he was free on bail and violated the terms of his bail by continuing to take part in Holocaust denial activities: violations for which he was never punished.

Zundel went back to court in January 1988. The new attorney-general was Ian Scott of the Ontario Liberal Party. Once again, the jury found Zundel guilty and he was sentenced to nine months in prison. Once again he appealed and violated the terms of his bail. His conviction and sentence were upheld by the Ontario Court of Appeal in 1990. He appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada, arguing that the False News Law was unconstitutional for violating freedom of speech. Throughout all of this he was free on bail, still publishing his propaganda.

In September 1990 the social-democrat New Democratic Party came to power in Ontario. Its leader, Bob Rae, while in opposition, pledged to jail Zundel if ever he came to power. Once he came to power, he quietly reneged on this promise, even though Zundel went to Europe in 1991, took part in neo-Nazi rallies in Spain and Germany, and was ordered arrested in Germany just prior to his

return to Canada.

The Supreme Court decision was given on August 27, 1992. It struck down the False News Law as unconstitutional, thus setting aside Zundel's convictions.

B'nai B'rith Canada and other Jewish agencies in the country then decided to prosecute Zundel under the Hate Bill (section 319(2)) of Canada's criminal code.

B'nai B'rith Canada executive vice-president Frank Dimant, in an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, cited the case of French Holocaust denier Robert Faurisson, which defined Holocaust denial as being a form of hate propaganda as opposed to being an exercise of free speech. In addition, he referred to a long list of provocations which fit the classic definition of hate propaganda.

These Zundel provocations in-

clude his being videotaped on a program called the Fifth Estate produced by the national Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, in which he referred to Jews as "monkeys." They include a 1977 book which he co-authored entitled *The Hitler We Loved and Why*, which contains numerous pages of Jew-hatred propaganda as well as anti-black tracts.

"This is clearly a promotion of hatred," said Canadian Jewish Congress community relations director Bernie Farber.

Germany agrees with this statement. On February 23, 1993, Eduard Lintner, Germany's deputy interior minister in charge of security, stated: "The Canadian government should do everything they can within their laws to stop the actions of Zundel, especially to prevent him from sending this

propaganda from Canada."

If he ever entered Germany, Zundel would be arrested due to a conviction for inciting racial hatred during a 1991 visit. He was fined the equivalent of \$25,000 and is appealing. Germany's ambassador to Canada, Hans Guenther-Sulimma, said in October 1993 his country would ask Canada to prosecute Zundel.

Yet since Canada's hate law requires provincial consent to initiate prosecution, all requests for Zundel's arrest under this law, whether from Germany or locally, have been stonewalled by the reluctance of Premier Rae to proceed in this matter.

"We are terribly disappointed that a man we believed to be a champion of human rights [Rae] has been totally inactive in the matter of Ernst Zundel. There is a complete lack of political will to bring Ernst Zundel to justice," said Dimant. "Privately, Bob Rae says he will follow up on his concerns. But there have been a lot of platitudes but no substantive action."

Why such inaction on Ontario's part? Dimant does not believe

that antisemitism is the motive, because in other aspects of race relations, the Rae government has been cooperative. He feels that, in light of the Supreme Court decision overturning Zundel's previous convictions, Rae is afraid of a legal defeat.

A more likely explanation is that the Rae provincial government, whose zigzag policies in the light of a local economic recession have cost it much popular support, feels politically beholden to academic circles from where Rae personally rose. These academic circles adhere rigidly to free-speech axioms which conflict with the principles of hate-law legislation.

Whatever the motive for such inaction in the wake of Zundel's mass international hate industry, Dimant "hopes that Bob Rae will muster the courage to tackle Zundel head on and B'nai B'rith will back him."

But perhaps only a change of Ontario's government will lead to his prosecution.

Right now, as Dimant said: "Zundel still walks around free: an insult to every Holocaust survivor and war vet."

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The writer is a... and... (Washington Post)

BUSINESS & FINANCE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1994

Imports, consumption surge

THE Treasury updated its import and consumption estimates for this year, following the surge in imports and the significant rise in private consumption during the first half of the year.

According to the Treasury's economic department, imports will increase 10 percent, instead of 5.9%, as it previously estimated, and private consumption will grow 5% instead of 4%.

Despite the dramatic 5.7% drop in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during the second quarter of the year, the Treasury still expects the GDP to rise 6.2% and the business product 7.4% this year.

Imports, excluding military goods, jumped 14% during the first half of the year and were 15% higher than last year's average.

JOSE ROSENFELD

The Treasury expects imports to moderate in the second half of the year since import growth outstripped the expansion in economic activity during the first half of the year.

As a result, inventories of unsold products have grown significantly. During the second quarter of the year, imports rose 10%, following a 7.5% increase in the previous quarter. The jump in the second quarter mostly reflects rising fuel, diamond, ship and airplane imports, as well as a surge in tourism abroad.

Private consumption rose 7% during the first half and was 9% higher than last year's average, representing a 7% increase per capita. In the first quarter, private consumption expanded 5.4%, followed by an 1.3% increase in the second quarter.

These figures show that private consumption grew unabated, despite predictions that the poor performance of the stock market in the first half of the year would cut down consumer spending. Treasury economists note that the rise reflects the wage increases the public sector employees have received, which has left them with more disposable income.

Consumption as reflected in travel abroad jumped 21% during the first half of the year, following a 28% increase last year. Treasury economists attribute the sharp rise to the elimination of the travel tax and the levy on imported services at the be-

ginning of 1993. In addition, they point to the drop in prices for vacation packages to destinations close to Israel.

The Treasury expects private consumption to moderate during the second half of the year.

Treasury economists note that despite the jump in consumer spending, private consumption is not the engine driving the economy forward. Rather, exports and investments are pushing the economy ahead.

During the first half of the year, investments shot up 16%. Investment in machinery and equipment increased 17% and investment on land transportation rose 24%.

By contrast, non-residential construction and public works fell 7%, mostly due to seasonal factors.

Africa Israel Investments posts 31% rise in net profits

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

AFRICA Israel Investments, a subsidiary of Bank Leumi, completed the second quarter with a 31.5 percent rise in net profits to NIS 12.1 million from NIS 9.2 million during the corresponding period last year.

In the first six months, net profit grew 56% to NIS 31.2 million from NIS 20 million.

Net return on equity was 8.9% on an annual basis.

Managing director Shlomo Grofman said the results reflect the surge in the company's construction transactions and hotel activities.

The company sold 600 apartments in the first six months of the year.

Israel, reported a net loss of NIS 2.22 million for the second quarter compared with a net profit of NIS 12.27 million during the same quarter last year.

The drop was blamed on the fall in the value of securities traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

The company's expenses fell 23% to NIS 62.2 million, mainly due to a 40% decline in expenses from construction transactions.

Profit from ordinary operations before taxes on income increased to NIS 16.48 million in the second quarter of the year from NIS 15 million in the corresponding period last year.

Use your byte to bite into Pizza Hut

SAN FRANCISCO (Renter) — Computers buffs can now use their bytes to get a bite to eat under a plan unveiled by Pizza Hut.

Trying to interface with the round-the-clock computer crowd, Pizza Hut said it will use the information superhighway to let PC fanatics order home pizza deliveries on the Internet.

The pilot program will begin immediately in the California seaside resort of Santa Cruz, whose residents are known for a willingness to try almost anything new.

The Internet is the largest electronic network linking computers. As many as 20 million people on the network communicate through a web of host computers around the world.

To order from the PizzaNet Pilot, Santa Cruz pizza lovers need computers with Internet access. They can then use the Internet's World Wide Web to gain access to the centralized PizzaNet computer.

The order is relayed on a modem and conventional phone lines to a computer at the customer's nearest Pizza Hut restaurant.

Saudi prince, US Jew become business partners

TOM TUGEND

LOS ANGELES

A MEMBER of the Saudi Arabian nobility and a Jewish merchant prince have shaken hands on a deal that makes them co-owners of San Francisco's historic Fairmont Hotel — for starters.

The new partners are Richard Swig, scion of one of the most prominent Jewish families in San Francisco for generations, and Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud. Alwaleed has acquired a 50 percent stake in three Fairmont hotels owned by the Swig family. Included is the chain's flagship landmark property atop Nob Hill in San Francisco, and two others in Dallas and New Orleans.

Swig retains full control of the Fairmont properties in San Jose and Chicago.

The price paid by the 37-year-old Alwaleed has not been disclosed, but he also pledged to invest some \$50 million for badly needed renovations of the hotels.

Swig said he was approached by Alwaleed over a year ago. "The first

question we asked was whether his highness knew we were a Jewish family," said Swig.

"The answer was yes, and that he was very, very happy to be doing business with us."

Alwaleed will be chairman of the new partnership, with Swig serving as vice chairman.

The new partners intend to buy as many as 25 other hotels in the next five to seven years.

No specific sites have been picked, but the hotels will probably be scattered throughout Europe, Canada and the US.

The deal was announced the same week that Jordan and Israel ended their state of war at the White House ceremony, but Swig said it was a straightforward business proposition, with no political implications.

Swig said Alwaleed "knows I'm very active in AIPAC and other Jewish organizations. He appreciates that I spend so much time doing civic work, and he's encouraged me to do more."

Castro Model enters the cosmetics field

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

CASTRO Model, the manufacturer of fashion wear, announced yesterday it is entering the cosmetics field.

The company's line of products include Eau de Toilette, deodorants, body cream and hand cream.

The products marketed under the Castro brand name will be available at Castro's 29 stores this month.

The company plans to market its

cosmetic line in leading perfume shops beginning in October.

The company completed the first quarter with a slight rise in net profit to NIS 1.6 million from NIS 1.5 million in the corresponding period last year.

The Castro family controls 70 percent of the company's shares, while the remaining shares are held by the public.

Cial Industries suffers 63% fall in second quarter net profits

RACHEL NEIMAN

CLAL Industries suffered a 63 percent fall in second quarter net profits to NIS 15.5 million from NIS 42.8 million during the same period last year.

The holding company suffered a NIS 19.6 million loss on securities traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, which was reflected in the results of most company subsidiaries.

Revenues rose 82% to NIS 715.9 million from NIS 392.8 million. Cial Industries CEO Meir Lazer pointed out that, not taking into ac-

count the loss on company portfolio, net profits showed an improvement.

"What can we do," he said, taking the setback in stride. "We lost on the stock market."

Earnings per share fell to NIS 0.11 from NIS 0.31.

A summary of Cial companies' second quarter net profits shows an overall decline.

Mashav fell to NIS 21 million from NIS 25 million. Kitan dropped to NIS 4 million from NIS 6 million. Clal Electronics decreased to NIS 14 million from NIS 27 million. Hadera Paper Mills suffered a loss of NIS 4 million, compared with a net profit of NIS 6 million.

Polgat net profits improved to NIS 4 million from NIS 3 million. Revenues went up to NIS 108 million from NIS 104 million.

The company said decreased profits in the electronics and metals field were balanced out somewhat by rises in the textile sector.

Cial Holdings and Insurance announces NIS 9.13 million net loss for second quarter

COMPANY RESULTS

RACHEL NEIMAN

CLAL Holdings and Insurance has announced a net loss of NIS 9.13 million for the second quarter, compared with a NIS 12.8 million net profit in the same period last year.

Quarterly premiums on life insurance fell to NIS 269 million from NIS 318.7 million, while premiums on general insurance rose to NIS 236.5 million from NIS 228.25 million.

The company said quarterly results were influenced by some NIS 40 million losses on securities held by the company and its subsidiaries.

Fidelity Gold Real Estate has reported second quarter net losses of NIS 552,147, compared with net losses of NIS 215,875 during the same period last year.

Revenues went up to NIS 257,873 from NIS 127,117.

The company attributed losses over the second quarter to a NIS 520,000 depreciation on its investment in Ramgor Investments.

loss was due to NIS 1.5 million in increased selling costs and allowance for doubtful debts.

Poor showing on the part of company portfolio accounted for an additional NIS 1.68 million loss.

Complite announced a drop in second quarter net profits to NIS 70,000 from NIS 117,000 during the same period last year.

Revenues went up to NIS 3.6 million from NIS 2.3 million.

Earnings per share dropped to NIS 0.022 from NIS 0.03.

The company, a leader in computerized lighting control, cited increased cost of sales including materials, labor and marketing, for the drop in profits.

Arad Towels' second quarter net profits rose to NIS 2.5 million from NIS 2 million during the same period last year and not as reported yesterday.

The company is jointly held by Delfi and US firm Standard Textile.

PIA-TARGET (MATARA), MUTUAL FUND

Notice of change in Investment Policy

Notice is hereby given that on August 21, 1994, a change occurred in the investment policy of the Fund as expressed in the Trust Agreement, in that the Fund will invest only in securities and options in which the investment is permitted according to law and pursuant to the special permits granted by the Controller of Foreign Exchange, this being instead of the Fund investing prior to such change in policy - only in securities as above.

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Leumi-Pia
Trust Management Company Ltd.

Trustee:
Kesselman & Kesselman
Trust Company (1971) Ltd.

leumi pia

NATIONAL INSURANCE INSTITUTE

Education Grant for 5755 - Single Parent Families

Today, Wednesday, August 24, the NII has paid an education grant for the year 5755 to single parent families that receive child allowance. The allowance is paid for every child born between December 8, 1980 and December 8, 1988 (6-14 year olds).

Rate of allowance: For children born between December 7, 1983 and December 8, 1988 - 18% of the average wage (NIS 708 for one child); for children born between December 8, 1980 and December 6, 1983 - 10% of the average wage (NIS 392 for one child).

Parents who are Divorced, a Widow or Single

If your family status is on record at the NII, the allowance will be paid directly into your bank account. Please do not apply to an NII branch regarding payment, before checking your account.

Parent Separated from Spouse

You are eligible for the payment, only if one of the following applies to you:

- You have been living apart from your spouse (not under the same roof) for at least two years, have started proceedings to end the marriage, and have been engaged in these proceedings for at least two years.
- You are an abandoned wife.
- You are a new immigrant who has lived in Israel more than one year but less than two years, and your spouse has not immigrated or even visited Israel.

Someone who regards himself as eligible for this payment, in accordance with the above, should apply to his nearest branch of the NII, and submit a request to receive the payment, attaching documents attesting his status.

Open line on the subject of this grant, today, Wednesday, August 24, and tomorrow, August 25, 2 - 6 p.m.
Please dial 02-709305, 02-709307, 03-709801.

Information and Public Relations **40**

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Our specially trained sales personnel will be available to discuss your investment needs.

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (23.8.94)

Currency (deposit term)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (250,000)	4.250	4.500	5.000
U.S. dollar (500,000)	3.875	4.125	4.375
German mark (DM 200,000)	4.000	4.250	4.500
Swiss franc (CHF 200,000)	3.250	3.375	3.625
Yen (10 million yen)	0.625	0.750	1.000

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (23.8.94)

Currency basket	Buy	Sell	Banknotes	Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates*
U.S. dollar	3.550	3.400	100	3.550	3.400	3.500
German mark	2.975	3.025	20	2.975	3.025	3.000
French franc	1.954	1.952	1,000	1.954	1.952	1.950
British pound	4.651	4.728	100	4.651	4.728	4.650
Japanese yen (100)	0.570	0.577	1,000	0.570	0.577	0.570
Swiss franc	3.024	3.025	20	3.024	3.025	3.020
Italian lire (100)	1.745	1.750	1,000	1.745	1.750	1.740
Spanish peseta	2.517	2.524	100	2.517	2.524	2.510
Swedish krona	0.957	0.958	100	0.957	0.958	0.950
Norwegian krone	0.444	0.450	100	0.444	0.450	0.440
Danish krone	0.494	0.495	100	0.494	0.495	0.490
Finland mark	0.590	0.594	100	0.590	0.594	0.590
Canadian dollar	2.174	2.203	100	2.174	2.203	2.170
Australian dollar	2.209	2.240	100	2.209	2.240	2.200
S. African rand	0.892	0.920	100	0.892	0.920	0.890
Belgian franc (10)	0.942	0.952	100	0.942	0.952	0.940
Austrian schilling (10)	2.778	2.817	100	2.778	2.817	2.770
Italian lire (100)	1.813	1.844	100	1.813	1.844	1.810
Japanese yen (100)	—	—	100	—	—	—
Swedish krona	3.710	3.715	100	3.710	3.715	3.710
Spanish peseta (100)	4.602	4.678	100	4.602	4.678	4.600
Yen (100)	2.940	2.970	100	2.940	2.970	2.940

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

מזמן החל

Shares take off with impressive round of rises

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ANDRE LUMBRIGO



Two-Sided Index Maof Index Karam Index

THE stock market took off with a most impressive round of rises yesterday, as the Two-Sided Index increased 2.7 percent, the Maof 3.3 percent and the Karam 4.9 percent.

Turnover was NIS 220 million. It is hard to understand what brought investors to indiscriminately dump shares, bonds and mutual fund certificates on Sunday.

The only two recent instances where the market took such a dive on a single day was the attempted coup against Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, which basically led to the collapse of the Soviet Union, and the start of the Gulf War.

Was the imposition of a capital gains tax such an earth-shattering event? The recent rises are bringing the indexes close to their starting point last Sunday morning and make one wonder what was the fracas all about.

The only conclusion which comes to mind is that investors were far more worried about the possibility of a massive capital flight rather than about the financial implications of the tax.

The market was even immune to the reports of disagreements in the government, in particular between the prime minister and the finance minister.

There were those who openly suggested that the finance minister should resign. Others were forecasting a stormy passage of the law in the

Knesset. It seems certain, in any case, that the reports that the Treasury was working on improvements, particularly in the area of mutual funds and of the treatment of losses did improve the atmosphere.

The best indication of the euphoria which reigned on the trading floor is the paltry number of securities which declined in price. Only 12 out of a total of 1,217 securities declined in price — eight of them on the Karam out of a total of 1,117.

There was only one warrant which declined in price on the Karam. The rises affected the blue chips, as well as the rest of the market.

Elbit and Osem rose 6%, Koor was up 5.8% and Teva increased 5%. There were some laggards, in particular the ICL group.

Israel Chemicals rose 2% and now stands at 207. Dead Sea Works was up 1%.

An interesting reaction was the 3% rise in Cables, despite the announcement of the failure in the negotiations for a merger with Zion Cables.

The market seems to have returned to its old ways. Activity is generated by money managers. Similarly, the sharp rise in the Karam does not hide the fact that turnovers are small, if not insignificant.

Total turnover, including the Parallel list, was NIS 53 million. In other words, the market is suffering again from a dearth of sellers.

FTSE Index rises 3.8 points after early weakness

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) — British shares closed mixed to higher, after earlier weakness, helped by a firmer FTSE futures market and steadier gilt, but the near-term upside looks limited.

The FTSE 100 index ended 3.8 points up at 3,175.1.

FRANKFURT — German shares finished the official session sharply lower, despite paring intraday losses in a late bounce.

The blue-chip DAX index was down 15.92 points, or 0.75 percent, at 2,107.87.

But it later rose in post-bourse trade to an IBIS-indicated high of 2,118.12 on a wave of short-covering.

PARIS — French shares closed with a big advance to stand just above the psychological 2,000-point level, helped by short covering and positive bonds.

The CAC 40 index closed up 28 points, or 1.42%, at 2,000.63.

ZURICH — Wall Street's firm early trend pushed Swiss blue chips higher to an almost steady close.

Late buying centered on a few industrial blue chips, while banks and insurers remained weak.

The Broad SPI was down 3.35 points at 1,687.55.

Stocks rally in NY, gain 24.61 points

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks rallied broadly yesterday after the dollar and bond prices rose, sweeping away concerns about higher interest rates.

The Dow Jones industrial average gained 24.61 points to end at 3,775.83, based on early and unofficial data.

In the broader market, advancing issues led declines 13-7 on active volume of more than 308 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

The bond and stock markets had moved lower in previous sessions on concerns that the flagging dollar could prove inflationary by raising import prices. Investors also worried that it could prompt the Federal Reserve to tighten interest rates.

But yesterday's recovery in the currency "takes the pressure off [the Federal Reserve] to have to do some-

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

MARK	STERLING	YEN	SFR	FFr
MARK	2.3841/51	152.48/61	2.0120/49	6.1757/77
STERLING	1.5814/00	0.8550/61	1.3182/16	5.3822/28
YEN	1.1836/52	0.4983/70	75.71/76	4.0803/73
SFR	0.2912/17	0.1221/23	15.81/68	0.2490/63
FFr				

Key Representative Rates	Change
US dollar ... NIS 3.0190	-0.01%
Sterling ... NIS 4.6894	+0.36%
Mark ... NIS 1.9695	+0.08%

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET

New York market indexes

Index	Value	Change
DJ Industrial	3,775.83	+24.61
S&P 500	2,812.12	+17.12
NASDAQ	2,000.63	+28.00
NYSE Composite	2,812.12	+17.12
NYSE Midcap	2,812.12	+17.12
NYSE Smallcap	2,812.12	+17.12
NYSE Microcap	2,812.12	+17.12
NYSE Biotech	2,812.12	+17.12
NYSE Energy	2,812.12	+17.12
NYSE Financial	2,812.12	+17.12
NYSE Health Care	2,812.12	+17.12
NYSE Technology	2,812.12	+17.12
NYSE Telecomm	2,812.12	+17.12
NYSE Utilities	2,812.12	+17.12
NYSE Consumer Goods	2,812.12	+17.12
NYSE Consumer Services	2,812.12	+17.12
NYSE Industrial Goods	2,812.12	+17.12
NYSE Industrial Services	2,812.12	+17.12
NYSE Transportation	2,812.12	+17.12
NYSE Other	2,812.12	+17.12

NYSE stocks

Unchanged

Declined

Other stock market indexes

FTSE 100

3,175.12

+3.8 points

DAX

2,107.87

-0.75%

CAC 40

2,000.63

+1.42%

Zurich SPI

1,687.55

-0.35%

Broad Market

2,812.12

+17.12

NYSE Composite

2,812.12

+17.12

NYSE Midcap

2,812.12

+17.12

NYSE Smallcap

2,812.12

+17.12

NYSE Microcap

2,812.12

+17.12

NYSE Biotech

2,812.12

+17.12

NYSE Energy

2,812.12

+17.12

NYSE Financial

2,812.12

+17.12

NYSE Health Care

2,812.12

+17.12

NYSE Technology

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+17.12

NYSE Telecomm

2,812.12

+17.12

NYSE Utilities

2,812.12

+17.12

NYSE Consumer Goods

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+17.12

NYSE Consumer Services

2,812.12

+17.12

NYSE Industrial Goods

2,812.12

+17.12

NYSE Industrial Services

2,812.12

+17.12

NYSE Transportation

2,812.12

+17.12

NYSE Other

2,812.12

+17.12

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Two-sided trading

Name Price Change Volume

Name Price Change Volume

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Aris knocks Beersheba out of Europe

ORI LEWIS

NOT unexpectedly, Hapoel Beersheba's short run in Europe is over. The Negev side went down 2-1 to Aris Salonika at home yesterday afternoon to see any hopes they might have had of reaching the next stage of the UEFA Cup go down the drain.

Their aggregate loss over the two legs was 5-2 in favor of the Greek side.

Only 7,000 spectators turned up to see a lackluster performance by the home team, who, before the kickoff, were brimming with confidence, saying that the 3-1 first-leg deficit to the Greek side could be overcome.

A 2-0 home win would have given Beersheba the margin they needed to beat Aris, but it was not long before that task turned impossible.

On the half-hour, Dimitris Bougiouklis shot home from close range and Aris knew they were safe. At that stage, Beersheba would have had to win 3-1 to force extra time or 4-1 for outright victory.

The hosts' hopes were raised slightly when Yossi Mader put Beersheba level on the stroke of halftime.

But instead of taking heart from their equalizer, Beersheba came out after halftime looking just as tired as before. They duly received their final

blow in the 55th minute when Ljubisa Mijovic struck the winner which saw both teams bid their time until the final whistle.

Yesterday's UEFA Cup results (goalscorers in parentheses): Dinamo Tbilisi (Georgia) 2 (half-time 0-1). Scores: Universitatea Cluj (Romania) 1, Dinamo Tbilisi 2 (half-time 0-1). Scores: Universitatea Cluj - Adrian Păcurar (59th); Dinamo Tbilisi - Mikheil Kavelashvili (5th), George Kichidze (86th). Attendance: 12,000. Dinamo Tbilisi wins 4-1 on aggregate.

In Bucharest: Rapid Bucharest (Romania) 1, Valletta (Malta) 1 (1-1). Scores: Rapid Bucharest - Fanel Tira (22nd); Valletta - Gilbert Agius (22nd). Attendance: 12,000.

Rapid Bucharest wins 7-3 on aggregate. In Sharm El Sheikh (Egypt) 1, Anorthosis Famagusta (Cyprus) 2 (1-0). Scores: Sharm El Sheikh - Boudjar Ibrahimov (43rd, penalty); Anorthosis Famagusta - Demetris Aschoti (61st), Stelios Kiki (82nd). Attendance: 3,000. Anorthosis wins 4-1 on aggregate.

In Chiassini: Zimbru Chisinau (Moldova) 0, Kaposztos (Hungary) 1 (0-0). Scores: Kaposztos - Orosz (83rd). Attendance: 2,000.

Kaposztos wins 5-1 on aggregate. In Tallinn: Flora Tallinn (Estonia) 0, Odense BK (Denmark) 3 (0-1). Scores: Carsten Hemmingsen (19th, 49th); Alphonse Tchami (68th). Attendance: 1,000.

Odense BK wins 6-0 on aggregate. In Belgrade: Beogradski BFC (Hungary) 1, Vardar Skopje (Macedonia) 0 (0-0).

Scores: Sander Cisto (61st). Attendance: 10,000.

Beogradski wins 2-1 on aggregate.



SAILING - Aris Salonika's Giorgios Koitsidas is tackled from behind.

(AP)

In Dublin: Shamrock Rovers (Ireland) 0, Goranik (Slovak Republic) 1 (0-1). Scores: Dusan Rapac (35). Attendance: 850.

Goranik wins 5-0 on aggregate.

In Anjashkoki: MyPa (Finland) 0, Inter Bratislava (Slovak Republic) 1 (0-1). Scores: Dusan Rapac (35). Attendance: 3,000.

MyPa wins 3-1 on aggregate.

In Sarajevo: Tuzla (Bosnia) 0, Fenerbahce (Turkey) 2 (0-0). Scores: Ali Nal (33rd, 45th). Attendance: 3,000.

Fenerbahce wins 7-0 on aggregate.

Christie breaks 10-second barrier, Aussies bounce back

VICTORIA (AP) - Linford Christie became the first sprinter to break the 10-second barrier under legal wind conditions in the Commonwealth Games 100 meters yesterday, winning his semifinal heat in 9.98 seconds.

The 34-year-old Englishman, the world's best at an age sprinters are usually past their prime, broke the games record of 10.02 he set in New Zealand four years ago and tied Monday in the quarter-finals.

The most serious competition for the world champion and 1992 Olympic gold medalist appeared to be Namibia's Frankie Fredericks, the Olympic silver medalist and world 200 champion who won the other semifinal heat in 10.01 seconds.

Unlike Monday's cool, damp weather, yesterday's track and field competition at Centennial Stadium was held under sunny skies.

Christie, who won the gold in the event four years ago in Auckland, New Zealand, took over the semifinal race after about 20m, bursting to the front with his trademark style and lengthening his lead until easing up the final few steps.

Olajide Ademilkun of Nigeria was second at 10.05.

Christie's previous games record was set in the preliminaries in Auckland in 1990. In the finals, he had a wind-aided 9.93 clocking.

Christie's only faster time this year was a wind-aided 9.91. His all-time legal best is 9.87 set at last year's World Championships.

Bruny Surin of Canada, fourth in the Olympic Games in Barcelona two years ago, finished sixth in his semifinal heat and failed to make it to the finals. Surin underwent minor knee surgery last month and struggled throughout the preliminaries in Victoria.

Meanwhile, BBC radio reported that an English athlete failed a drug test at the European Championships earlier this month in Helsinki, Finland. The British Athletic Federation said it could not confirm the report. Nor would it say whether the athlete was competing at the Commonwealth Games.

"We are not talking hold the front page but the athlete involved is a significant name," the BBC said.

Australia, meanwhile, was poised to continue its gold rush in swimming.

Kieren Perkins, already a winner of three golds, had by far the fastest time in yesterday's 1,500-m freestyle at 15:12.90, although he was nearly 30 seconds

off his world mark.

Perkins already has won the 200 and 400 freestyle races and was part of the winning 800 freestyle relay team.

Another Aussie, Steven Dewick, set a games record in the 100 backstroke qualifying at 55.89 seconds.

Ellie Overton, Australia's winner of the 400 individual medley, had the fastest time in the 200 individual medley yesterday and was favored to complete a double triumph later in the day.

Yet another Australian, William Kirby, was the fastest qualifier for the 200 butterfly at 2:00.47.

An exception to the Aussie onslaught came in the men's 50 freestyle, where England's Mark Foster was the fastest at 22.95 seconds.

McCague boosts tour chances with 15-wicket match haul

Warwickshire stretches lead with win over Yorkshire

LONDON (Reuters) - Martin McCague filed another persuasive application for a place in the England squad for the winter tour to Australia with a 15-wicket haul in Kent's 69-run county championship win over Derbyshire on Monday.

Watched on the final day by England selector Brian Bolis, McCague bowled with the pace and hostility that won him two Test caps last summer to take six for 61 as Derbyshire was bowled out for 282 before tea.

That gave him match figures of 15 for 147 - the best for Kent since John Shepherd returned identical figures against Sussex at Maidstone in 1975.

It was an outstanding performance on a lifeless Derby pitch.

Warwickshire stretched its lead at the top of the championship table to 29 points with an eight-wicket victory over Yorkshire at Scarborough.

Left-arm spinner Richard Davis took six for 94 - his best figures since joining the county from Kent - as Yorkshire was bowled out for 347, leaving Warwickshire with a target of 199 in 49 overs.

Roger Twose led the championship leaders home with an unbeaten 86 from 115 balls.

Nottinghamshire's title hopes suffered a major setback when Gavin Haynes and Tim Curtis scored contrasting centuries to inspire Worcestershire to a five-wicket win at Kidderminster.

Worcestershire reached their daunting 362-run target with 7.4 overs to spare to deny Nottinghamshire the chance to move into second spot in the table.

Haynes blasted 141 from 143 deliveries with 26 fours and a six while Curtis faced 295 balls for his unbeaten 118. The pair put on 200 for the third wicket in 48 overs.

Meanwhile, the West Indies will play a six-Test series in England for the first time when it tours next year, it was announced yesterday. The tour will also include three one-day internationals.

With the West Indies' series against Australia not due to finish until early May, the tourists will arrive later than usual, on May 9.

They open their tour with a traditional one-day match against the Leicestershire and Lincolnshire XI at Arundel four days later and play the first Test at Headingley on June 8.

The other Tests are at Lord's, Edgbaston, Old Trafford, Trent Bridge and The Oval.

West Indies won the last series 3-1, played in the Caribbean earlier this year.

County Championship Table

	P	W	L	D	Net	Points
Warwickshire	14	9	1	4	37	45
Leicestershire	13	7	5	1	36	47
Nottinghamshire	14	7	4	3	30	45
Sussex	14	7	3	4	26	45
Surrey	14	7	3	4	25	47
Somerset	14	7	5	2	28	43
Essex	14	6	6	3	28	51
Kent	14	6	5	3	26	50
Gloucestershire	14	6	5	3	25	47
Northamptonshire	14	6	4	4	22	41
Gloucestershire	14	4	7	3	20	52
Dorset	14	4	9	1	28	43
Derbyshire	14	4	8	2	28	42
Hampshire	13	4	5	4	22	43
Derbyshire	14	4	8	2	23	46
Worcestershire	13	3	5	3	30	43
Gloucestershire	14	3	8	3	25	47
Gloucestershire	13	1	7	5	26	37

Note: Lancashire deducted 25 points because of the poor state of their pitch in the match vs. Middlesex.

Histadrut workers vow to fight firings

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

HISTADRUT workers yesterday held an emergency assembly at the labor federation's Tel Aviv headquarters, where they vowed to fight Chairman Haim Ramon's plan to fire more than 1,000 of them and promised "to make his life as miserable as he is making ours."

The workers also resolved to oppose the new leadership's plans to hire new workers on personal contracts and to move the Histadrut headquarters to Arza, outside Jerusalem, "even if we have to burn tires on the Histadrut steps."

"We have taught others in this country how to fight for their rights and now we will fight for ours," one speaker said.

The workers withdrew their planned declaration of a labor dispute at the last moment, when Acting Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz promised to carry out the dismissals only after talking to the workers' representatives. At the same time, however, Peretz told the workers "not to sabotage the dismissals plan so as not to increase the number of workers to be fired."

The speakers at the meeting blasted the Histadrut leadership for failing to consult with the workers' union before announcing that more than one third of the 3,500 workers in the headquarters, labor councils, and institutions would be fired.

The new leadership is always attacking the old leadership for its "reign of terror, but it is now, not during the old leadership's reign, that we are living in fear and in constant dread," workers' union chairman Bracha Siegelman said.

She added that "Ramon's new life [his party slogan] in the Histadrut means a death sentence to me and my fellow workers. Why should I accept that kind of new life? He should take it back to where he came from."

Siegelman said that for months Ramon has been inciting public opinion against Histadrut workers, portraying them as no-good tea drinkers. She said that "reorganization and reform does not mean first fire and then mark your target, as Ramon has done, but examine the situation and think of how to make things more efficient, and then decide on the cutbacks according to your goals."

She demanded that workers about to be fired be considered victims of the state health insurance law, which drastically cut the Histadrut's income from its Kupat Holim Clalit health fund, thus making the dismissals necessary. The 500 workers of the Histadrut's tax department, who are defined as health law victims, are eligible for improved retirement terms, and Siegelman said the rest of the workers should receive these conditions as well.

Wadi Ara villagers vow to step up pressure against regional council

DAVID RUDGE

RESIDENTS of eight Arab villages in the Wadi Ara region yesterday vowed to intensify their campaign against a new regional council appointed by the Interior Ministry to replace a parish council.

The villagers charged that the new Nahal Iron region council, which began its functions on Monday, was the exactly the same thing in a different guise as the parish council which they had fought hard to abolish.

"Even the members of the council, with the exception of the chairman and one new member, are the same as those who were appointed by the ministry to run the parish council," said Rida Agbariya, spokesman for the committee established to fight against the new council.

Agbariya maintained that the overwhelming majority of residents of the eight villages - Salim, Zafra, Musheirifa, Ibbaiyada, Musmus, Muwiyah, Alasalah and West Bana'a -

wanted the new regional council to be abolished and smaller local councils with elected representatives established instead.

"Nearly 90 percent of the land owned by villagers does not even come under the jurisdiction of this new regional council and remains under the control of the Menashe and Megiddo Jewish regional councils," he said.

The Interior Ministry maintained that the new regional council, headed by appointed chairman David Azulai, would cooperate with local committees on development projects for the benefit and welfare of residents of all the villages until elections could be held.

Agbariya said the protest tent the villagers had established opposite the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem would remain and they intended to keep all 3,000 children in the area away from school.



Hameshakeim workers demonstrate yesterday outside the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs in Jerusalem demanding payment of their convalescent allotment. The government-sponsored company creates jobs for some 3,500 handicapped people. (Stein/Hanari)

'No English in Arabic schools either'

BATSHEVA TSUR

THE head of the Histadrut's education and sport division, Raleb Mejadia, has come out against the experimental teaching of English in Arabic-language schools.

In a letter to Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein, Mejadia wrote that the experiment - which has been called off in nine Hebrew-speaking schools as the result of pressure from the Hebrew Language Academy - should likewise be canceled in the Arab sector.

"It is inconceivable that what is not suitable for the Jewish sector, should be tried out in Arab schools," Mejadia said, pointing out that the pupils there were already under great pressure to master two languages, Arabic and Hebrew.

Rubinstein had planned to introduce English as the teaching language in non-academic subjects in 12 schools, in order to raise the level of English among high-school pupils.

'Forbidding the import of non-kosher meat should be illegal'

EVELYN GORDON

THE law forbidding the importing of non-kosher meat should be declared illegal, both because of procedural flaws during its adoption by the Knesset and because it contradicts two Basic Laws, a petition to the High Court of Justice charged yesterday.

Alternatively, non-kosher meat importers should be compensated for the damage this law has done them, the petition said.

The petition was filed by Meztreal Ltd., which has previously filed numerous petitions to obtain the right to import non-kosher meat - and two other meat importing companies.

Meztreal argued that the Knesset violated several substantive procedural rules in passing the law - which was demanded by Shas as a condition for rejoining the coalition - and that according to High Court precedent, the law should therefore be considered invalid.

One procedural flaw, the petition said, was that the bill was expanded during committee hearings to prevent the importing of all non-kosher meat,

instead of just beef. Several MKs objected that this exceeded the mandate given by the plenum during the bill's first reading, and that such an objection requires the House Committee to rule on the matter, which it never did.

The petition failed to note, however, that most, if not all of the MKs later withdrew their objection, under pressure from Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Aside from the procedural flaws, however, the law also violates basic constitutional principles, the petition charged.

An amendment to the Basic Law: Freedom of Occupation was passed in order to get around this problem. It states that a law can be passed which contradicts the Basic Law, even if it is not for a suitable purpose, if 61 MKs support it. Such a mechanism to override the constitution exists in almost no other country in the world, the petition noted.

But in any case, the petition ar-

gued, the override's power is limited, because the override clause explicitly says it applies to laws which don't meet the criteria listed in section four. Therefore, the petition argued, it doesn't include permission to violate the criteria listed in section one, which states that the Basic Laws are meant to promote the values listed in the Declaration of Independence.

These values, which include freedom of religion, are certainly violated by the meat law, the petition said. Under the law, for instance, non-Jews - who are the main buyers of non-kosher meat - are forced to buy kosher imported meat, which costs more.

The law even requires Moslems to import meat which is certified kosher by the rabbinate, rather than by their own kashrut experts, the petition noted.

The petition added that if the court rejects all these arguments, it should at least require the government to compensate non-kosher meat importers, whose business has just been shut down.

Arab council leaders demonstrate in Haifa

DAVID RUDGE

HUNDREDS of Arab council heads, officials, and municipal employees staged a mass demonstration in Haifa last night, as efforts continued to try to end the more than five-week-old strike by council leaders.

The protesters carried placards calling for an end to discrimination against the Arab sector, and for by-

gatory parity between Arab and Jewish councils.

They marched on the steps of Haifa City Hall, where a rally was addressed by Ibrahim Nimr Hussein, head of the forum of Arab Council Heads (ACH). Nimr Hussein, who is also mayor

of Shafaram, said the councils had accumulated deficits totaling over NIS 200 million, mainly because their budgets are lower than those of similar-sized Jewish councils.

The demonstration, which was licensed by police, passed quietly and the participants dispersed after less than two hours.

Meanwhile, contacts continued yesterday between representatives of the Arab council leaders, Union of Local Authorities (ULA) chairman Adi Eldar and the Treasury in an effort to resolve the financial plight of the councils and to end the strike.

Hussein Suleiman, spokesman for the ACH forum, said representatives of the three sides are scheduled to meet with Finance Minister Avraham Shohat tonight. This follows attempts by Eldar to thrash out a compromise solution that would satisfy the demands of the Arab council leaders

and prove acceptable to the Treasury.

One of the main stumbling blocks remaining is the insistence of the council heads that the government cover two thirds of their deficits through grants and approved loans, with the remainder coming from the collection of municipal taxes.

The treasury suggested that part of the money should come instead from the councils' development budgets for next year, which would effectively prevent council leaders from going ahead with urgently needed projects in towns and villages, including the establishment of proper road and sewerage networks.

Nevertheless, there was some optimism last night that a compromise would be reached that would enable the council heads to call off their strike and dismantle the protest tent that has stood opposite the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem for well over a month.

Petition: Deri's lawyer can't be forced to defend him

EVELYN GORDON

THE lawyer for former Interior Minister Aryeh Deri should not be forced to represent him at his trial, a petition to the High Court of Justice demanded yesterday.

Alternatively, the petition asked that the trial be held only three days a week, instead of four.

The petition was filed by attorney Dan Avi-Yitzhak, together with attorneys Haim Liran and Gilad Blot, who are representing Deri's co-defendants. Deri's other lawyer, Amnon Zichroni, said he plans to file a similar petition today.

The attorneys also filed an appeal to the Supreme Court, since they were not certain which was the proper legal procedure.

The petition asked for an interim injunction allowing the three lawyers not to appear at the trial, which starts September 1, if the court has not yet ruled on their petition. Otherwise, they said, the trial would be invalidated if the petition was accepted, since it would have been conducted by unauthorized lawyers.

The attorneys argued that since they explicitly agreed to represent the defendants only during the preliminary stages of the trial, the Jerusalem District Court had no right, in its decision last week, to force them to continue for the rest of the trial.

When the preliminary hearings opened in December, the petition said, the attorneys told the district court they had not yet decided to represent the defendants, and said they would decide only after the eight-month break granted them to examine the material. The court accepted this announcement, and declared the defendants without representation. Therefore, the petition said, in the absence of any announcement that the lawyers had agreed to take the case, the court had no reason to assume they had done so.

Furthermore, the petition said, the lawyers reiterated that they were representing the defendants only for the preliminary hearings in every document they submitted over the next eight months. Thus neither the court nor the prosecution could claim to be unaware of this, it said - and the prosecution several times acknowledged awareness of the situation.

The defendants were also aware of the situation and chose to take the risk, the petition added.

If the court objected to this situation, the petition continued, it should have raised its objections sometime during these eight months.

The petition also noted that the district court based its ruling on a clause in the penal code which says a lawyer cannot quit a case in the middle without the court's permission.

This clause, which was meant to protect the defendant, would harm many defendants if the district court's interpretation is upheld, the petition said, since lawyers would refuse to give defendants any help at all for fear of being trapped for the entire case.

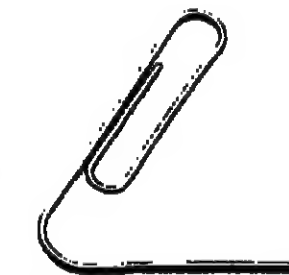
It also attacked the district court's finding that by their actions, the attorneys had indicated intent to represent the defendants.

The court's decision, the petition charged, was meant to save it the embarrassment of holding the trial without legal representation. But the law, it said, is meant to protect the interest of the defendants, not the court. And even the defendants' interest must be balanced against the interests of the lawyers, it added.

The attorneys said they would be willing to take the case if hearings were held only three days a week. Since they still haven't finished studying the enormous quantity of material, the "off" days are necessary if they are to prepare a proper defense, the petition said.

The legal injunction to finish a case rapidly, the petition added, is meant to prevent the defendants' suffering from dragging on. But in this case, it would cause the defendants greater injustice if the case were heard at such a pace that proper defense was impossible, the petition argued.

In addition, the petition said, a heavy hearing schedule would require all the lawyers to hike their fees, because they would have to eliminate all other business. This might cause problems for the defendants, it said.



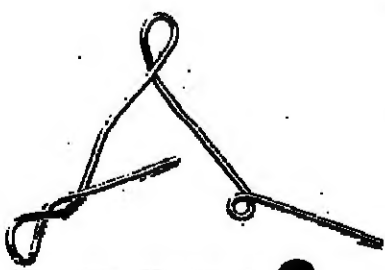
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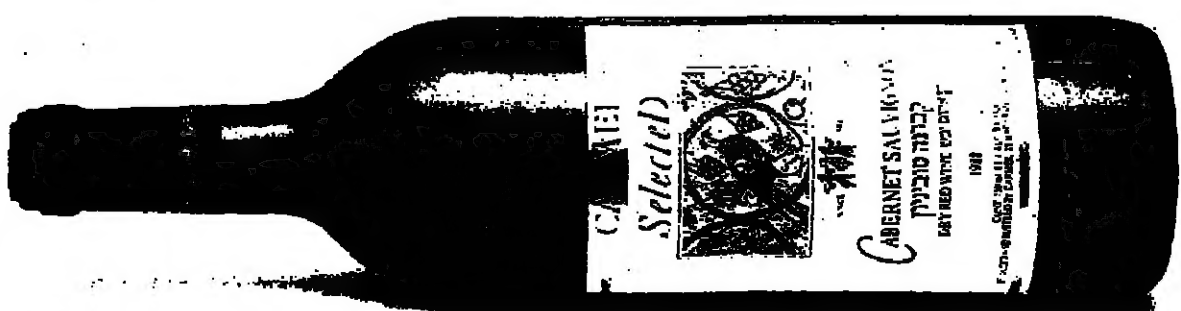
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